

THE CENTRE FOR LEBANESE STUDIES

England & Wales · Charity number 298375

Details

Other names	CLS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1988-01-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Clis 23 Eyot Gardens London W6 9TR
Phone	01223767539
Email	info@lebanesestudies.com
Website	www.lebanesestudies.com

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY PROVIDING AN EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT TO FURTHER THE STUDY OF AND RESEARCH INTO THE HISTORICAL, ECONOMIC, GEOGRAPHIC, SOCIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL ISSUES RELATING TO AND EFFECTING THE COUNTRY OF LEBANON AND LEBANESE PEOPLE AND THE DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROMOTION OF TEACHIN IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE SAME IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING AND INTER ALIA, TO CREATE A LIBRARY OF ARCHIVES AND RECORDS RELATING TO LEBANON, TO ENCOURAGE AND ORGANISE SEMINARS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL EVENTS CONCERNING THE SAME AND TO ISSUE BOOKS PAMPHLETS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE CENTRE.

Activities: To advance the education of the public by providing an educational establishment to further the study of and research into the historical, economic, geographic and cultural issues relating to and affecting the country of Lebanon and the Lebanese people.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Lebanon
- Oxfordshire
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£1,347,774	£993,704	£422,583	3
2023-12-31	£979,150	£991,818	£16,805	3
2022-12-31	£914,835	£1,272,050	£29,325	2
2021-12-31	£912,193	£815,118	£357,832	1
2020-12-31	£801,243	£684,939	£260,757	10

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Bassem Ziade	Chair	2018-08-08
DALIA SALAAM RISHANI		2018-08-08
Edward Asseily		2018-08-08
James Wilfrid Watt		2023-07-05

Accounts

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Annual report and Financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Charity Number: 298375 (England and Wales)

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Annual Report and Financial Statements

**For the Year Ended
31 December 2024**

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Centre for Lebanese Studies

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Bassem Ziade
Trustees	Bassem Ziade, Chairman Dalia Salaam Rishani Edward Asseily James Watt
Governors	Andrew Arsan Bassem Ziade Dalia Salaam Rishani Edward Asseily Ghias El Yafi Gilbert Doumit Haneen Sayed Izzat Darwazeh James Watt Peter El Hajj
Senior Management Team	Dr. Maha Shuayb, Director Prof. Cathrine Brun, Deputy Director for Research Rachel Saliba, Director of Operations
Principal Office	Faculty of Education 184 Hills Road Cambridge CB2 8PQ
Charity Registration Number	298375
Independent Auditor	Wenn Townsend 30 St Giles Oxford OX1 3LE

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is an independent academic research institution, which seeks to promote international understanding of Lebanon and the issues facing it, by undertaking high-quality independent research and encouraging discussion and learning through lectures, conferences, workshops, and publications. The Centre also seeks to inform policymakers and make recommendations based on research findings in connection with issues facing Lebanon.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and in particular to its two key principles, that there must be identifiable benefit and that the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public. The Trustees are satisfied that the activities and purpose of the Centre, as described above and in the accompanying financial statements, fully meet the public benefit requirements.

FUND-RAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION

The Centre for Lebanese Studies does not have significant fundraising activities. Its funding is mainly generated from research grants. However, in 2024, for its 40th anniversary, the Centre held a fundraiser in November. The fundraising activities included the sale of seats to attend the fundraiser, contributions through donations, and proceeds from a silent auction.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Centre for Lebanese Studies continues to focus on four main research themes: education, refugees, disability, and social movements. On the theme of **education**, CLS has produced and published various reports and publications related to the Education Research in Conflict and Protracted Crisis (ERICC) funded by the FCDO (UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office) and led by the International Rescue Committee. The CLS team also presented at various conferences, such as BAICE (British Association for International and Comparative Education). The duration of this project has been extended until May 2027.

The British Academy Bi-Lateral Chair project aims to engage with issues related to refugee education globally. It aims to decenter theorizing about refugee education and education in emergencies, ensuring that the

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

experiences of teachers, students, and communities in the Global South set the agenda for their education planning and implementation. Various events, such as summer schools in Lebanon and Cambridge, as well as webinars and workshops, were conducted. Additionally, articles were published in academic journals, and various reports were published on the CLS website. The CLS Knowledge Collective was established as a result of this project, aiming to bring together academics and researchers at various stages of their careers who are interested in education, migration, disability, and social movements in the SWANA region. A no-cost extension was granted until July 2025.

On the theme of **refugees**, CLS continued its work on the AlGhurair Foundation consultancy. A report was presented, and the project was finalised. Similarly, our work on the IDRC project on decolonising knowledge systems, funded by IDRC, continued, and the CLS team presented their findings at various international conferences, such as CIES (Comparative and International Education Society) and BAICE. The project was completed in December 2024.

On the theme of **disability**, the Disability Research and Advocacy Hub continued its work to advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities. A one-year cost extension was granted for the project, which is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). Various outputs, including videos, social media campaigns, reports, and policy briefs, were produced. The project was completed in March 2024. Moreover, a task force was established that brings together various disability organisations, aiming to gather and assess the main disability issues that need to be advocated for.

Within the **social movements** theme, interviews were conducted with disability experts and activists, and the archive continued. A website was being developed to disseminate and showcase the research results.

Grant-raising

The Centre's main income is from grants received from charities, academic institutions, think-tanks, and national and international development agencies. In addition, the Centre separately received donations for scholarships and bursaries from CLS trustees.

The Director of the Centre identifies suitable funding opportunities and works with a potential grantee to explore and develop a funding proposal. The trustees are informed of such proposals as well as new grants at regular intervals.

Based on the Centre's strategy that is formulated with the trustees, the CLS currently focuses on four major themes: education, migration/refugees, social movements, and disability. Proposals for grants are aligned to these themes and include activities such as research, publications, seminars, and policy briefs, among others.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of charity's financial position at the end of the reporting period

The Centre made a surplus for the year of \$452,750 (2023 *restated*: surplus of \$50,967), in line with expectations. The Centre continues to grow and is financially stable as reflected in the balance sheet, with income received in advance available in cash, which allows current financial obligations and committed projects to be completed as planned.

Reserves

The Centre manages its cash flows very closely. A rolling 12-month forward-looking forecast is conducted and revised on a quarterly basis, and a detailed budget review is conducted once every year. With that, we ensure that all commitments to grantees, contractors, and employees are within a good level of confidence.

At the year end the Centre had total reserves of \$540,357 (2023 *restated*: \$87,607), \$405,075 of which was restricted (2023 *restated*: \$66,715). Unrestricted funds were in a surplus of \$135,282 (2023: \$20,892). The Centre has no fixed reserve requirement, but Trustees regularly review the balance of funds.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks facing the charity are:

- Banking system and financial instability in Lebanon. Likelihood: Medium – Trustees and the Operations team keep a very close eye on new laws and decrees. Risk is substantially mitigated by grants being received in foreign currency and maintaining a maximum of one month of local expenditures in Lebanon.
- Retention of core staff. Likelihood: Medium – Core staff are usually budgeted and hired on a project basis, and until new funding is awarded, they do not receive pay. The trustees made a decision to ensure that core staff are retained for short bridging periods in between projects, if the charity's financial resources permit it.
- Regional and local security risks: Medium – With the ongoing breaking of the ceasefire in Lebanon, there is a security risk. CLS has security protocols in place for all its staff, which include, but are not limited to, staff working remotely from secure and safe locations when appropriate.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

CLS continues its research on the themes of education, refugees, disability and social movement. The Director and Trustees will continue to review the evolving situation in Lebanon and the wider region and respond accordingly, both in terms of research and operations.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Nature of governing document

The Centre is a registered charity, number 298375 governed by a trust deed dated 22nd December 1987. It is governed by the trustees through regular meetings.

Trustees must be appointed by a majority vote of the governors, from the existing pool of governors. At every annual general meeting, existing trustees may either be reappointed or retire. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees elect from their number a Chairman and a Treasurer.

Once appointed, new trustees are inducted and receive a set of the trust's governance documents as well as guidance on the role of the trustee:

- Trust deed of the Centre for Lebanese Studies
- Charity Governance Code for larger charities
- Organisational Chart of the CLS
- Strategy, aims and objectives of CLS
- Bi-annual report that the Operation Team at CLS prepares for the trustees.

Relation between charity and related parties

The CLS operates in Lebanon through a local NGO called "Education Development Centre in Lebanon" (EDC). EDC was established in 2019 to enable the CLS to operate legally and to hire local research and administrative staff in Lebanon. EDC and CLS operate as one organisation and have a shared governance structure and policies as well as an integrated management, research and operational team.

Organisational structure

The Centre is managed by the Director, Dr. Maha Shuayb. She has two direct reports: 1) Director of Operations, Rachel Saliba, who is responsible for managing all operational activities of the Centre in all its locations, and 2) Deputy Director, Dr. Cathrine Brun, who oversees all the research activities within the Centre. Dr. Shuayb reports directly to the Chairman, acting on behalf of the Trustees and Board of Governors.

Each project is managed by a project manager/Senior researcher who reports to the Director of Operations for administrative, financial, and communication matters and to the Director of Research for research and academic matters. He/she leads their respective team of junior researchers, research consultants, and research assistants.

The core operational team consists of 3 main departments: Finance, Administrative, and Communication. The Finance department consists of a part-time Finance Manager who oversees the work of the full-time Finance Officer. A Project Coordinator leads the administrative and logistical tasks with the assistance of an Administration Assistant. The Senior Media and Communications Specialist is assisted by a Graphic designer.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Most of the researchers are contractors recruited for the term of the relevant project. They are all highly qualified academic researchers that are recruited for their domain expertise. The majority of the staff of CLS and all the researchers hired to work on the ground in Lebanon are employed or contracted by EDC, which is an affiliate of CLS registered in Lebanon, for local legal, tax, and regulatory reasons.

Decision making

Trustees have independent control over, and legal responsibility for, the charity's management and administration. Under UK law, they have a duty to:

- Comply with CLS's governing document and the law
- Act in the charity's best interests
- Manage the charity's resources responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Ensure the charity is accountable
- Ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit

The Chairman of the Trustees of CLS and EDC is responsible for ensuring the proper operation of the Board of Trustees, including:

- Convening the necessary meetings
- Chairing them
- Ensuring they are properly minuted
- Overseeing compliance with reporting requirements.

He/she is a bank signatory. He/she will maintain direct personal contact with the Director and serve as her/his line manager.

The Treasurer (who is also a Trustee) is responsible for reporting to the Board on financial matters. He/she is also a bank signatory.

The Treasurer is responsible at Board level for leading on:

- Making sure the charity keeps proper accounts
- Reviewing the charity's financial performance
- Ensuring that the charity has robust and effective financial controls in place
- Liaising with finance staff, the Accountant and the auditors

The Secretary (who is also a Trustee) is responsible at Board level for matters concerning staff employment, welfare and discipline. He/she may also be a bank signatory.

Other Trustees may also be appointed, one of whom could serve as Vice-Chairman.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Collectively, the Trustees are responsible for Board decisions. The Trustees will normally meet with the Director taking part in the meeting, but on occasions will meet on their own.

Decisions reserved for approval by the Board of Trustees:

- Appointment or variation in terms of the Director and Senior Managers
- Changes and material deviations from strategy
- Policies and material exceptions to policies
- Creation or closing of offices, branches, legal entities
- New and material changes to existing institutional partnerships or close collaborations
- Financial commitments outside of approved project budgets that are greater than 10,000\$
- Anything that could reasonably conflict with the Centre's purpose or adversely affect its reputation
- Appointment of auditors and legal advisors

The Role of the Director of CLS and EDC

Subject to the decisions reserved by the Board of Trustees, the Director has full executive and operational responsibility for the charities, in both management and academic terms, reporting to the Board and seeking advance approval of major changes of activity, policy, or structure. He/she is supported by a Director of Operations and Deputy Directors of Research.

Meetings

The board of governors meets twice a year.

The board of trustees meets formally one or two times a year with the Director of the Centre, the Director of Operations, and the Deputy Director of Research. These occur in addition to the board of governors meeting. A quarterly forecast is submitted to the Chairman and Treasurer, and an update on progress is submitted to the Board of Trustees every 6 months.

Arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's key management personnel and any benchmarks in setting pay

A salary scale is in place, which is reviewed from time to time, and used to guide the pay of all staff at CLS. Salaries and contractor rates are benchmarked to those of academic researchers, universities and thinktanks by taking into account the position (level of seniority), years of experience, location, and educational level of employees. We also take into account length of contract, and whether it is a full time or short term contract. The Centre aims to attract among the best academic researchers in their field, and this is reflected within its competitive compensation.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

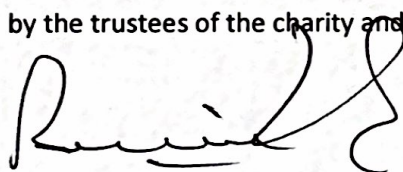
In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS102)
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Additionally, trustees acknowledge their responsibility to identify, assess, and manage risks. The major risks related to the Centre that include the current uncertain and unstable financial situation in Lebanon as been reviewed and assessed and the necessary internal processes have been set up to manage those risks.

Approved by the trustees of the charity and signed on its behalf by:



Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee

Date: 28th October 2025

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Independent Auditor's Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Centre for Lebanese Studies

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Centre for Lebanese Studies (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other matters

The financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2023 were unaudited. An independent examination was performed which expressed an unmodified opinion on these statements. As a result of our 2024 audit work to review opening balances a material misstatement was noted as at 31 December 2023, which has now been corrected in the current year as a prior period adjustment. Further details are provided in note 1.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Centre for Lebanese Studies (continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Centre for Lebanese Studies (continued)

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance and the entity's solicitors around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at:

<https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance/auditor-s-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-fi/description-of-the-auditor%E2%80%99s-responsibilities-for>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Wenn Townsend

Wenn Townsend (Statutory Auditor)

30 St Giles, Oxford, OX1 3LE

28th October 2025

Wenn Townsend is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

		Restricted funds 2024 \$	Unrestricted funds 2024 \$	Total 2024 \$	Restricted funds 2023 \$ <i>restated</i>	Unrestricted funds 2023 \$ <i>restated</i>	Total 2023 \$ <i>restated</i>
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	-	189,885	189,885	-	86,905	86,905
Charitable activities	3	1,533,513	-	1,533,513	1,191,533	5,544	1,197,077
Investment income	4	-	1	1	-	13	13
Total income		1,533,513	189,886	1,723,399	1,191,533	92,462	1,283,995
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5, 6	1,195,153	75,496	1,270,649	1,156,926	76,102	1,233,028
Total expenditure		1,195,153	75,496	1,270,649	1,156,926	76,102	1,233,028
Net income / (expenditure)		338,360	114,390	452,750	34,607	16,360	50,967
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	(464)	464	-
Net movement in funds	15	338,360	114,390	452,750	34,143	16,824	50,967
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forwards	15	66,715	20,892	87,607	32,572	4,068	36,640
Total funds carried forward	15	405,075	135,282	540,357	66,715	20,892	87,607

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

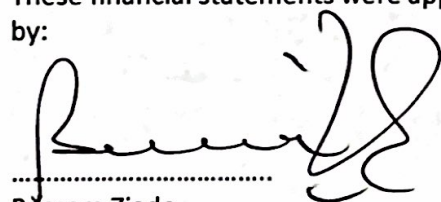
The notes on pages 15 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2024

			2024		2023
		\$	\$	\$	\$
	Notes			restated	restated
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	10		-		-
Tangible fixed assets	11		-		-
			<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	113,026		166,051	
Cash at bank		<u>734,013</u>		<u>264,573</u>	
		847,039		430,624	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(306,682)</u>		<u>(343,017)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			540,357		87,607
NET ASSETS			<u>540,357</u>		<u>87,607</u>
FUNDS					
Restricted funds	15		405,075		66,715
Unrestricted funds	15		135,282		20,892
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>540,357</u>		<u>87,607</u>

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:



Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee

Date: 30/10/2025

The notes on pages 15 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

		2024 \$	2023 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes		
Net cash used in operating activities	17	469,439	(30,138)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		1	13
NET CASH FROM IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		1	13
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		469,440	(30,125)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>264,573</u>	294,698
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u>734,013</u>	<u>264,573</u>

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies

General information and basis of preparation

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is a charitable trust in England / Wales. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in the Annual Report section.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in US dollars which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest dollar.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example, the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure. No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP. Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies (continued)

For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received. At this point income is recognised. On occasion legacies will be notified to the charity however it is not possible to measure the amount expected to be distributed. On these occasions, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% Reducing balance

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Leases

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the SoFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Foreign currency

Foreign currency transactions are initially recognised by applying to the foreign currency amount the spot exchange rate between the functional currency and the foreign currency at the date of the transaction.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency at the balance sheet date are translated using the closing rate.

Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

Funds

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are subject to specific conditions by the donor as to how they may be used.

Prior period error

An error identified in the prior period accounts relating to the omission of accrued income to the amount of \$66,715 was adjusted for in the current year. Prior year figures have been adjusted accordingly, with the impact being an uplift to 2023 restricted income, debtors and funds by this amount as at 31st December 2023.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Restricted funds 2024 \$	Unrestricted funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$
Donations and gifts	-	189,885	189,885	86,905
	-	189,885	189,885	86,905

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Restricted funds 2024 \$	Unrestricted funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$ <i>restated</i>
Research grants	1,533,513	-	1,533,513	1,191,533
Other charitable activities	-	-	-	5,544
	1,533,513	-	1,533,513	1,197,077

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Restricted funds 2024 \$	Unrestricted funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$
Investment income	-	1	1	13
	-	1	1	13

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – BY FUND

	Restricted Funds 2024 \$	Unrestricted Funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$
Research	1,195,153	75,496	1,270,649	1,233,028
	<u>1,195,153</u>	<u>75,496</u>	<u>1,270,649</u>	<u>1,233,028</u>
Total 2023	<u>1,156,926</u>	<u>76,102</u>	<u>1,233,028</u>	

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Grant funding (note 7) 2024 \$	Direct costs 2024 \$	Support costs 2024 \$	Total Funds 2024 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$
Research	8,778	1,226,412	35,459	1,270,649	1,233,028
	<u>8,778</u>	<u>1,226,412</u>	<u>35,459</u>	<u>1,270,649</u>	<u>1,233,028</u>
Total 2023	<u>42,627</u>	<u>1,174,629</u>	<u>15,772</u>	<u>1,233,028</u>	

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (continued)

ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Staff costs (Note 9)	318,368	296,919
Research fees	265,926	281,554
Project costs	553,383	585,952
Translation and editing	9,072	6,000
Travel	37,173	7,172
Other direct costs	29,632	13,158
Foreign exchange (gain) / loss	12,858	(16,126)
	<u>1,226,412</u>	<u>1,174,629</u>

ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Other miscellaneous expenses	5,491	60
Subscriptions, advertising and website	50	1,772
Travel and accommodation	22,985	11,551
Accountancy and audit	5,286	676
Bank charges	1,647	1,763
	<u>35,459</u>	<u>15,822</u>

Included in support costs are governance costs of \$5,286 (2023: \$676), which represent fees payable to the Charity's auditor (2023: independent examiner) for the audit (2023: independent examination) and preparation of the annual accounts.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Scholarships	-	2,382	2,382	42,627
Bursaries	-	6,396	6,396	-
	-	8,778	8,778	42,627
Total 2023	-	42,627	42,627	

Grants to individuals consists of scholarship grants and bursaries paid out to two (2023: four) individuals.

Grants to institutions consist of scholarship grants and living expenses paid to individuals via their academic institution. No grants to institutions were made in the current or prior year.

8. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year (2023: \$Nil).

One trustee received \$248 for reimbursed expenses in the current year (2023: \$Nil). No trustees received any other benefits from the charity during the year (2023: \$Nil).

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

9. EMPLOYEES

The payroll costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Wages and salaries	275,090	256,057
Social security costs	33,171	30,924
Pension costs	10,107	9,938
	<u>318,368</u>	<u>296,919</u>

The average monthly number of full time and part time employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
UK staff	3	3

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer's pension costs) were £60,000 or more was:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
\$87,958 / \$100,521 / £70,001 to £80,000	1	1
\$125,652 - \$138,216 / £100,001 - £110,000	-	1
\$122,814 - \$135,094 / £100,001 to £110,000	1	
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel are defined as the Senior Management Team, incorporating the Managing Director, Director of Operations, and Deputy Director for Research.

The total employment benefits paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year were \$314,147 (2023: \$257,055).

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2024
	\$
	<i>Archives</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2024	17,307
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2024	17,307
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2024	17,307
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2024	17,307
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2024	-
At 31 December 2024	-

11. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	2024
	\$
	<i>Furniture & equipment</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2024	63,079
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2024	63,079
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 January 2024	63,079
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2024	63,079
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2024	-
At 31 December 2024	-

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

12. DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	\$	\$ <i>restated</i>
Other debtors	811	37,463
Prepayments and accrued income	112,215	128,588
Total debtors	113,026	166,051

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Accruals	26,985	-
Other creditors	93	-
Deferred income (note 14)	279,604	343,017
Total creditors	306,682	343,017

14. DEFERRED INCOME

	\$
At 1 January 2024	343,170
Deferred in the year	259,162
Amounts used	(322,728)
At 31 December 2024	279,604

Deferred income represents restricted grant income received in advance.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

15. FUNDS AND RESERVES

CURRENT YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2024 \$ <i>restated</i>	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Transfers \$	Balance at 31 December 2024 \$
Restricted funds					
Research projects	66,715	1,533,513	(1,195,153)	-	405,075
Unrestricted funds	20,892	189,886	(75,496)	-	135,282
	87,607	1,723,399	(1,270,649)	-	540,357
PRIOR YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2023 \$ <i>restated</i>	Incoming resources \$ <i>restated</i>	Resources expended \$	Transfers \$	Balance at 31 December 2023 \$ <i>restated</i>
Restricted funds					
Research projects	32,572	1,191,533	(1,156,926)	(464)	66,715
Unrestricted funds	4,068	92,462	(76,102)	464	20,892
	36,640	1,283,995	(1,233,028)	-	87,607

Restricted funds – Research projects represent individual grants received for restricted projects. Amounts unspent on these grants are carried forward to be spent in line with the restrictions in future years.

Transfers – Transfers between funds represent foreign exchange differences or overspends on restricted grant funded projects met by unrestricted funds.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2024 \$	Restricted funds 2024 \$	Total 2024 \$
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	135,877	711,162	847,039
Current liabilities	(595)	(306,087)	(306,682)
	135,282	405,075	540,357

	Unrestricted funds 2023 \$	Restricted funds 2023 \$ <i>restated</i>	Total 2023 \$
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	20,892	409,732	430,624
Current liabilities		(343,017)	(343,017)
	20,892	66,715	87,607

17. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024 \$	2023 \$ <i>restated</i>
Net income for the year	452,750	50,967
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation charges	-	-
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments	(1)	(13)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	53,025	(144,741)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(36,335)	63,649
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	469,439	(30,138)

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

18. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 January 2024 \$	Cashflows \$	At 31 December 2024 \$
Cash at bank and in hand	264,573	469,440	734,013
	264,573	469,440	734,013

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, transfers amounting to \$553,383 (2023: \$585,952) were paid to an affiliated NGO entity Education Dev. Center in Lebanon, established to hire local staff and enable CLS to fulfil its objectives.

During the year, donations amounting to \$65,265 were received from four trustees (2023: two trustees amounting to \$86,905).

Accounts

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Annual report and Financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Charity Number: 298375 (England and Wales)

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31 December 2023

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Centre for Lebanese Studies

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Bassem Ziade
Trustees	Bassem Ziade, Chairman Dalia Salaam Rishani Edward Asseily Ghias El Yafi (resigned July 2023) James Watt (appointed July 2023) Youssef Khlat (resigned July 2023)
Governors	Alexandra Asseily Andrew Arsan Bassem Ziade Dalia Salaam Rishani Edward Asseily Ghias El Yafi Gilbert Doumit Haneen Sayed (appointed July 2023) Izzat Darwazeh James Watt Leila Buheiry (resigned July 2023) Peter El Hajj (appointed July 2023) Youssef Khlat (resigned July 2023)
Senior Management Team	Dr. Maha Shuayb, Director Prof. Cathrine Brun, Deputy Director for Research Rachel Saliba, Director of Operations
Principal Office	Faculty of Education, 184 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 8PQ
Charity Registration Number	298375
Independent Examiner	Michael Hewett FCA DChA Peters Elworthy & Moore Salisbury House Station Road Cambridge CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is an independent academic research institution, which seeks to promote international understanding of Lebanon and the issues facing it, by undertaking high quality independent research and encouraging discussion and learning through lectures, conferences, workshops, and publications. The Centre also seeks to inform policymakers and make recommendations based on research findings in connection with issues facing Lebanon.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and in particular to its two key principles, that there must be identifiable benefit and that the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public. The Trustees are satisfied that the activities and purpose of the Centre, as described above and in the accompanying financial statements, fully meet the public benefit requirements.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Centre for Lebanese Studies continues its focus on 4 main research themes: Education, refugees, disability, and social movements. On the theme of **education**, CLS has produced and published various reports and publications related to the comparative and longitudinal study in Lebanon, Turkey and Australia, that examine the impact of settlement and education provisions in different settings on the education progression of refugee children over a five-year period, funded by the Spencer Foundation. The project was completed in December 2023.

The British Academy Bi-Lateral Chair project aims to engage with issues related to refugee education globally. It aims to decenter theorizing about refugee education and education in emergencies, ensuring that the experiences of teachers, students and communities in the Global South set the agenda for their education planning and implementation. Various events, such as summer schools in Lebanon and Cambridge, as well as webinars and workshops, were conducted. Additionally, articles were published in academic journals, and various reports were published on the CLS website. Six research fellows were also recruited as part of the project.

The CLS was granted a new project entitled Education Research in Conflict and Protracted Crisis (ERICC) funded by the FCDO and led by International Rescue Committee. Between October and December 2023, the research team carried out a country scan to understand the evidence gap and data systems, identify relevant stakeholders, and develop strategies for collecting evidence that will inform education policy and practice.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The Centre for Lebanese Studies continues its focus on 4 main research themes: Education, refugees, disability, and social movements. On the theme of **education**, CLS has produced and published various reports and publications related to the comparative and longitudinal study in Lebanon, Turkey and Australia, that examine the impact of settlement and education provisions in different settings on the education progression of refugee children over a five-year period, funded by the Spencer Foundation. The project was completed in December 2023.

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Grant-raising

The Centre's main income is from grants received from charities, academic institutions, think-tanks, and national and international development agencies. In addition, the Centre separately received donations for scholarships and bursaries from CLS trustees.

The Director of the Centre identifies suitable funding opportunities and works with a potential grantee to explore and develop a funding proposal. The trustees are informed of such proposals as well as new grants at regular intervals.

Based on the Centre's strategy that is formulated with the trustees, the CLS currently focuses on four major themes: education, migration/refugees, social movements, and disability. Proposals for grants are aligned to these themes and include activities such as research, publications, seminars, policy briefs, among others.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of charity's financial position at the end of the reporting period

The Centre made a deficit for the year of \$15,748 (2022: Deficit of \$446,327), in line with expectations. The Centre continues to grow and is financially stable as reflected in the balance sheet, with income received in advance available in cash, which allows current financial obligations and committed projects to be completed as planned.

Reserves

The Centre manages its cashflows very closely. A rolling 12-month forward looking forecast is conducted and revised on a quarterly basis, and a detailed budget review is conducted once every year. With that, we ensure that all commitments to grantees, contractors, and employees are within a good level of confidence.

At the year end the Centre had total reserves of \$20,892 (2022: \$36,640), none of which were restricted (2022: \$32,572). Unrestricted funds were in a surplus of \$20,892 (2022: \$4,068). The Centre has no fixed reserve requirement, but Trustees regularly review the balance of funds.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks facing the charity are:

- Banking system and financial instability in Lebanon. Likelihood: High – Trustees and the Operations team keep a very close eye on new laws and decrees. Risk is substantially mitigated by grants being received in foreign currency and maintaining a maximum of one-month of local expenditures in Lebanon.
- Retention of core staff. Likelihood: Medium – Core staff are usually budgeted and hired on project basis, and until new funding is awarded, they are not receiving pay. The trustees took a decision to ensure that core staff are retained for short bridging periods in-between projects, if the charity's financial resources permit it.
- Regional and local security risks: High – With the ongoing war in Gaza and the recent extension of the conflict into Lebanon, there is a security risk. However, banks continue to operate normally.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Nature of governing document

The Centre is a registered charity, number 298375 governed by a trust deed dated 22nd December 1987. It is governed by the trustees through regular meetings.

Trustees must be appointed by a majority vote of the governors, from the existing pool of governors. At every annual general meeting, existing trustees may either be reappointed or retire. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees elect from their number a Chairman and a Treasurer.

Once appointed, new trustees are inducted and receive a set of the trust's governance documents as well as guidance on the role of the trustee:

- Trust deed of the Centre for Lebanese Studies
- Charity Governance Code for larger charities
- Organisational Chart of the CLS
- Strategy, aims and objectives of CLS
- Bi-annual report that the Operation Team at CLS prepares for the trustees.

Relation between charity and related parties

The CLS operates in Lebanon through a local NGO called "Education Development Centre in Lebanon" (EDC). EDC was established in 2019 to enable the CLS to operate legally and to hire local research and administrative staff in Lebanon. EDC and CLS operate as one organisation and have a shared governance structure and policies as well as an integrated management, research and operational team.

Organisational structure

The Centre is managed by the Director, Dr. Maha Shuayb. She has two direct reports, 1) Director of Operations, Rachel Saliba, who is responsible for managing all operational activities of the Centre in all its locations, and 2) Deputy Director for Research, Dr. Cathrine Brun, who oversees all the research activities within the Centre. Dr. Shuayb reports directly to the Chairman, acting on behalf of the Trustees and Board of Governors.

Each project is managed by a project manager/Senior researcher who reports to the Director of Operations for administrative, financial, and communication matters and to the Director of Research for research and academic matters. He/she leads their respective team of junior researchers, research consultants, and research assistants.

The core operational team consists of 3 main departments: Finance, Administrative, and Communication. The Finance department consists of a part-time Finance Manager who oversees the work of the full-time Finance Officer. A Project Coordinator leads on the administrative and logistical tasks with the assistance of an Administration Assistant. The Senior Media and Communications Specialist is assisted by a Communications Officer and a Graphic designer.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Most of the researchers are contractors recruited for the term of the relevant project. They are all high-quality academic researchers that are recruited for their domain expertise. The majority of the staff of CLS and all the researchers hired to work on the ground in Lebanon are employed or contracted by EDC, which is an affiliate of CLS registered in Lebanon, for local legal, tax, and regulatory reasons.

Decision making

Trustees have independent control over, and legal responsibility for, a charity's management and administration. Under UK law, they have a duty to:

- Comply with CLS's governing document and the law
- Act in the charity's best interests
- Manage the charity's resources responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Ensure the charity is accountable
- Ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit

The Chairman of the Trustees of CLS and EDC is responsible for ensuring the proper operation of the Board of Trustees, including:

- Convening the necessary meetings
- Chairing them
- Ensuring they are properly minuted
- Overseeing compliance with reporting requirements.

He/she is a bank signatory. He/she will maintain direct personal contact with the Director and serve as her/his line manager.

The Treasurer (who is also a Trustee) is responsible for reporting to the Board on financial matters. He/she is also a bank signatory.

The Treasurer is responsible at Board level for leading on:

- Making sure the charity keeps proper accounts
- Reviewing the charity's financial performance
- Ensuring that the charity has robust and effective financial controls in place
- Liaising with finance staff, the Accountant and the auditors

The Secretary (who is also a Trustee) is responsible at Board level for matters concerning staff employment, welfare and discipline. He/she may also be a bank signatory.

Other Trustees may also be appointed, one of whom could serve as Vice-Chairman.

Collectively, the Trustees are responsible for Board decisions. The Trustees will normally meet with the Director taking part in the meeting, but on occasions will meet on their own.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Decisions reserved for approval by the Board of Trustees:

- Appointment or variation in terms of Director and Senior Managers
- Changes and material deviations from strategy
- Policies and material exceptions to policies
- Creation or closing of offices, branches, legal entities
- New and material changes to existing institutional partnerships or close collaborations
- Financial commitments outside of approved project budgets that are greater than 10,000\$
- Anything that could reasonably conflict with the Centre's purpose or adversely affect its reputation
- Appointment of auditors and legal advisors

The Role of the Director of CLS and EDC

Subject to the decisions reserved by the Board of Trustees, the Director has full executive and operational responsibility for the charities, in both management and academic terms, reporting to the Board and seeking advance approval of major changes of activity, policy or structure. He/she is supported by a Director of Operations and Deputy Directors of Research.

Meetings

The board of governors meet twice a year.

The board of trustees meet two to four times a year with the Director of the Centre, the Director of Operations, and the Deputy Director of Research. A quarterly forecast is submitted to the Chairman and Treasurer, and an update on progress is submitted to the Board of Trustees every 6 months.

Arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's key management personnel and any benchmarks in setting pay

A salary scale is in place, which is reviewed from time to time, and used to guide the pay of all staff at CLS. Salaries and contractor rates are benchmarked to those of academic researchers, universities and thinktanks by taking into account the position (level of seniority), years of experience, location, and educational level of employees. We also take into account length of contract, and whether it is a full time or short term contract. The Centre aims to attract among the best academic researchers in their field, and this is reflected within its competitive compensation.

Plans for future period

CLS continues its research on the themes of education, refugees, disability and social movement. The Director and Trustees will continue to review the evolving situation in Lebanon and the wider region and respond accordingly both in terms of research and operations.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Additionally, trustees acknowledge their responsibility to identify, assess, and manage risks. The major risks related to the Centre that include the current uncertain and unstable financial situation in Lebanon as been reviewed and assessed and the necessary internal processes have been set up to manage those risks.

Approved by the trustees of the charity and signed on its behalf by:



Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee

Date: 30 October 2024

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Independent Examiner's Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Centre for Lebanese Studies ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

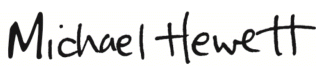
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed by examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect;

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 31 October 2024

M Hewett FCA DChA
Peters Elworthy and Moore
Chartered Accountants
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge
CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

		Restricted funds 2023 \$	Unrestricted funds 2023 \$	Total 2023 \$	Total 2022 \$
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	-	86,905	86,905	119,452
Charitable activities	3	1,124,818	5,544	1,130,362	1,023,597
Investment income	4	-	13	13	-
Total income		1,124,818	92,462	1,217,280	1,143,049
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5, 6	1,156,926	76,102	1,233,028	1,589,376
Total expenditure		1,156,926	76,102	1,233,028	1,589,376
Net income / (expenditure)		(32,108)	16,360	(15,748)	(446,327)
Transfers between funds		(464)	464	-	-
Net movement in funds	16	(32,572)	16,824	(15,748)	(446,327)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forwards	16	32,572	4,068	36,640	482,967
Total funds carried forward	16	-	20,892	20,892	36,640

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2023

		2023		2022	
		\$	\$	\$	\$
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	11	-	-	-	-
Tangible fixed assets	12	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	99,336	21,310		
Cash at bank		264,573	294,698		
		363,909	316,008		
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(343,017)	(279,368)		
NET CURRENT ASSETS		20,892		36,640	
NET ASSETS		20,892		36,640	
FUNDS					
Restricted funds	16	-	32,572		
Unrestricted funds	16	20,892	4,068		
TOTAL FUNDS		20,892		36,640	

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:

Bassem Ziade

.....
 Bassem Ziade
 Chairman and Trustee
 Date: 30 October 2024

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

		2023 \$	2022 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes		
Net cash used in operating activities	18	(30,138)	(380,814)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		13	-
NET CASH FROM IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		13	-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		(30,125)	(380,814)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		294,698	675,512
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u>264,573</u>	<u>294,698</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second edition October 2019 - effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Centre for Lebanese Studies meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Functional and presentational currency

The charity's functional currency is USDs and the presentational currency is USDs. The accounts were previously prepared in GBP, this change has therefore been applied retrospectively in order to bring comparatives in line.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity’s compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee’s meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% Reducing balance

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Funds

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee’s discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are subject to specific conditions by the donor as to how they may be used.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Restricted funds 2023 \$	Unrestricted funds 2023 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$	Total Funds 2022 \$
Donations and gifts	-	86,905	86,905	119,452
Trusts, foundations, and grants	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>86,905</u>	<u>86,905</u>	<u>119,452</u>

In 2022 all income was to unrestricted funds.

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Restricted funds 2023 \$	Unrestricted funds 2023 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$	Total Funds 2022 \$
Research grants	1,124,818	-	1,124,818	1,011,389
Other charitable activities	-	5,544	5,544	12,208
	<u>1,124,818</u>	<u>5,544</u>	<u>1,130,362</u>	<u>1,023,597</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Restricted funds 2023 \$	Unrestricted funds 2023 \$	Total Funds 2023 \$	Total Funds 2022 \$
Investment income	-	13	13	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>-</u>

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – BY FUND

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Research	1,156,926	76,102	1,233,028	1,589,376
	<u>1,156,926</u>	<u>76,102</u>	<u>1,233,028</u>	<u>1,589,376</u>
Total 2022	<u>562,949</u>	<u>1,026,427</u>	<u>1,589,376</u>	

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Grant funding (note 7)	Direct costs	Support costs	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Research	42,627	1,174,629	15,772	1,233,028	1,589,376
	<u>42,627</u>	<u>1,174,629</u>	<u>15,772</u>	<u>1,233,028</u>	<u>1,589,376</u>
Total 2022	<u>114,238</u>	<u>1,452,058</u>	<u>23,080</u>	<u>1,589,376</u>	

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (continued)

ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Staff costs (Note 10)	296,919	247,695
Research fees	281,554	185,333
Project costs	585,952	896,675
Translation and editing	6,000	12,173
Travel	7,172	6,288
Communications	-	3,581
Other direct costs	13,158	16,578
Foreign exchange (gain) / loss	(16,126)	83,735
	<u>1,174,629</u>	<u>1,452,058</u>

ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Other miscellaneous expenses	60	265
Subscriptions, advertising and website	1,772	4,336
Travel and accommodation	11,551	10,895
Accountancy and audit	676	4,248
Bank charges	1,763	3,336
	<u>15,772</u>	<u>23,080</u>

Included in support costs are governance costs of \$676 (2022: \$4,248), which represent fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner for the independent examination and preparation of the annual accounts.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Scholarships	-	42,627	42,627	114,238
	-	42,627	42,627	114,238
Total 2021	63,468	50,770	114,238	

Grants to individuals consists of scholarship grants paid out to four individuals.

Grants to institutions consist of scholarship grants and living expenses paid to individuals via their academic institution. During the year, the following payments were made to institutions:

Kings College University:	\$NIL (2022: \$41,309)
University College of London:	\$NIL (2022: \$22,159)

8. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year (2022: \$Nil).

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year (2022: \$Nil).

9. TAXATION

The Charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

10. EMPLOYEES

The payroll costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Wages and salaries	256,057	211,081
Social security costs	30,924	27,211
Pension costs	9,938	9,402
	<u>296,919</u>	<u>247,695</u>

The average monthly number of full time and part time employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
UK staff	3	2

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer's pension costs) were £60,000 or more was:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
\$73,688 – \$85,970 / £60,001 to £70,000	-	1
\$85,971 / \$98,250 / £70,001 to £80,000	1	-
\$122,814 - \$135,094 / £100,001 to £110,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel are defined as the Senior Management Team, incorporating the Managing Director, Director of Operations, and Deputy Director for Research.

The total employment benefits paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year were \$257,055 (2022: \$247,695).

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2023
	\$
	<i>Archives</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2023	17,307
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2023	17,307
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2023	17,307
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2023	17,307
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2023	-
At 31 December 2023	-

12. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	2023
	\$
	<i>Furniture & equipment</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2023	63,079
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2023	63,079
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2023	63,079
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2023	63,079
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2023	-
At 31 December 2023	-

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

13. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Other debtors	37,463	784
Prepayments and accrued income	61,873	20,526
Total debtors	99,336	21,310

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Accruals	-	4,248
Deferred income (note 15)	343,017	275,120
Total creditors	343,017	279,368

15. DEFERRED INCOME

	\$
At 1 January 2023	275,120
Deferred in the year	343,017
Amounts used	(275,120)
At 31 December 2023	343,170

Deferred income represents restricted grant income received in advance.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

16. FUNDS AND RESERVES

CURRENT YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2023 \$	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Transfers \$	Balance at 31 December 2023 \$
Restricted funds – Research projects	32,572	1,124,818	(1,156,926)	(464)	-
Unrestricted funds	4,068	92,462	(76,102)	464	20,892
	36,640	1,217,280	(1,233,028)	-	20,892
PRIOR YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2022 \$	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Transfers \$	Balance at 31 December 2022 \$
Restricted funds – Research projects	113,814	481,707	(562,949)	-	32,572
Unrestricted funds	369,153	661,342	(1,206,427)	-	4,068
	482,967	661,342	(1,026,427)	-	36,640

Restricted funds – Research projects represent individual grants received for restricted projects. Amounts unspent on these grants are carried forward to be spent in line with the restrictions in future years.

Transfers – Transfers between funds represent foreign exchange differences or overspends on restricted grant funded projects met by unrestricted funds.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 \$	Restricted funds 2023 \$	Total 2023 \$
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	20,892	343,017	363,909
Current liabilities		(343,017)	(343,017)
	<u>20,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,892</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2022 \$	Restricted funds 2022 \$	Total 2022 \$
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	63,436	252,572	316,008
Current liabilities	(59,368)	(220,000)	(279,368)
	<u>4,068</u>	<u>32,572</u>	<u>36,640</u>

18. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Net income for the year	<u>(15,748)</u>	<u>(446,327)</u>
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation charges	-	-
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments	-	-
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(78,026)	(125)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	63,649	65,638
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	<u>(30,138)</u>	<u>(380,814)</u>

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 January 2023 \$	Cashflows \$	At 31 December 2023 \$
Cash at bank and in hand	294,698	(30,125)	264,573
	<u>294,698</u>	<u>(30,125)</u>	<u>264,573</u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, transfers amounting to \$585,952 (2022: \$869,794) were paid to an affiliated NGO entity Education Dev. Center in Lebanon, established to hire local staff and enable CLS to fulfil its objectives.

During the year, donations amounting to \$86,905 were received from two trustees to then be paid out as scholarships (2022: two trustees amounting to \$119,452).

Accounts

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Annual report and Financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Charity Number: 298375 (England and Wales)

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31 December 2022

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Centre for Lebanese Studies

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Bassem Ziade
Trustees	Bassem Ziade, Chairman Dalia Salaam Rishani Edward Asseily Ghias El Yafi (resigned July 2023) James Watt (appointed July 2023) Youssef Khlata (resigned July 2023)
Governors	Alexandra Asseily Andrew Arsan Bassem Ziade Dalia Salaam Rishani Edward Asseily Ghias El Yafi Gilbert Doumit Haneen Sayed (appointed July 2023) Izzat Darwazeh James Watt Leila Buheiry (resigned July 2023) Mouhammed Choukeir (resigned in 2022) Peter El Hajj (appointed July 2023) Vida Hamd (resigned January 2022) Youssef Khlata (resigned July 2023)
Senior Management Team	Dr. Maha Shuayb, Director Prof. Cathrine Brun, Deputy Director for Research Rachel Saliba, Director of Operations
Principal Office	Faculty of Education, 184 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 8PQ
Charity Registration Number	298375
Independent Examiner	Michael Hewett FCA DChA Peters Elworthy & Moore Salisbury House Station Road Cambridge CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is an independent academic research institution, which seeks to promote international understanding of Lebanon and the issues facing it, by undertaking high quality independent research and encouraging discussion and learning through lectures, conferences, workshops, and publications. The Centre also seeks to inform policymakers and make recommendations based on research findings in connection with issues facing Lebanon.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and in particular to its two key principles, that there must be identifiable benefit and that the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public. The Trustees are satisfied that the activities and purpose of the Centre, as described above and in the accompanying financial statements, fully meet the public benefit requirements.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Centre for Lebanese Studies continues its focus on 4 main research themes: Education, refugees, disability, and social movements. In terms of **education**, CLS has finalised its fourth wave of data collection for a comparative and longitudinal study in Lebanon, Turkey and Australia, to examine the impact of settlement and education provisions in different settings on the education progression of refugee children over a five-year period, funded by the Spencer Foundation. Several reports have already been published and a few more are in the process of being finalised and published. A no-cost extension was granted for 2023.

The Open Society Foundations funded project, which is part of the "Integrity and Accountability in the Lebanese Educational System" initiative, was finalised. The overarching goal of this project was to push for a transparent and effective reform of the educational sector in Lebanon through an advocacy campaign that aims at disseminating the result of the research project, so as to affect decision makers, and lobby for integrity in education. The researchers published the report and a workshop to present the results of the research was conducted with policy-makers, activists, researchers, and representatives from (I)NGO's.

During this year, CLS was granted funding by the European Union Commission for a duration of one year in order to develop a blended approach for teacher professional development, particularly for educators working with Syrian refugees and Lebanese children from marginalised backgrounds. A MOOC was co-designed with educators from Lebanon focusing on teaching pedagogies, inclusive education, alternative assessment methods and teachers' well-being. Various face-to-face workshops were also conducted with some of the participants of the MOOC.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

The British Academy Bi-Lateral Chair was launched in October 2022. The project aims at analysing the evolution of the education response, the rationales, and interests of the different local and international parties including UN agencies and donors and the impact on the schooling outcomes of refugees and host communities through a “policy ethnography”. The event was hybrid whereby participants in the UK and Lebanon were able to livestream simultaneously presentations in each country. Additionally, two fellows were recruited and a PhD retreat was conducted in the UK with a focus on theorising in PhD research.

On the theme of **refugees**, CLS in partnership of a consortium with eight universities and research centers in Europe and Canada have been awarded Horizon 2020 grant to examine how protection seekers experience their vulnerabilities and how these experiences are continuously shaped and produced in interaction with the legal and policy frameworks and implementation practices of the relevant decision-makers. A three-year comparative research project, investigates the implementation of the concept of the vulnerability of protection seekers in Lebanon. Including a legal and empirical study, the project documents, evaluates and reflects on how vulnerabilities of protection seekers are being assessed and addressed in Lebanon’s protection regime. In 2022, the second report of the project was finalised and published. The researchers on the project took part in various webinars and conferences and presented the results of the research so far.

Decolonising Knowledge Systems: Towards a new Southern-Led approach is a project that seeks to deconstruct the concepts of decolonisation/localisation of knowledge production and understand the dynamics of how these concepts have been applied by multiple actors in the last decade, including institutions of higher learning, research for development organisations, researchers, and funders. In 2022, the research team launched the project and began data collection.

Granted in 2021, “Supporting Knowledge Translation, Cross-Portfolio, Learning & Communication for Impact” is a project that entails an analytical synthesis of projects focused on youth issues globally and across regions and programs. The aim is to help identify a solid research agenda on the links between civic engagement and better governance, greater accountability and transparency of policy processes. In 2022, data collection was completed and a final report was published.

In Jordan, CLS completed the project on the evaluation of refugee-led organisations, that aims to understand the factors that influence the impact of refugee-led organisations as service-delivery providers in humanitarian settings in the Middle East and East Africa. In Jordan, CLS was also granted phase II of a project on the journeys of refugees and national in Jordan through the labour market.

On the theme of **disability**, the Disability Research and Advocacy Hub continues its work to advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities. Through the four-year project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) various activities were conducted. For example, a project on media training was conducted, which aims to advocate and raise awareness on the disability notion as well as provide training to media production organisations, TV reporters, producers, journalists. etc. to produce inclusive media content that uses inclusive language, correct disability terminologies based on the social model of disability. A series of workshops were delivered to different Lebanese media organisations, and media education program coordinators to train them to deliver their media content inclusively by using one of the Disability Hub guidelines.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Within the **social movements** theme, 2022 was dedicated to building the social movements archive for the second half of the 1980s in Lebanon. The researchers collected, coded and analysed articles from two Lebanese newspapers, Annahar and Assafir, covering the financial crisis and the labour, teachers, women, and people with disabilities movements during the years 1985-89. Additionally, we drew a comprehensive outline showing tactics and methods of resistance, what worked and didn't, and the state's responses to protest movements during the civil war.

Finally, the Centre awarded one research bursary in Lebanon and five higher education scholarships in Lebanon.

Grant-raising

The Centre's main income is from grants received from various funding organisations such as charities, academic institutions, think-tanks, and national and international development agencies. In addition, the Centre separately receives donations for scholarships and bursaries from CLS trustees.

The Director of the Centre pinpoints funding opportunities and works with a potential grantee to explore and develop a funding proposal. The trustees are informed of such proposals as well as new grants at regular intervals.

Based on the Centre's strategy that is formulated with the trustees, the CLS currently focuses on four major themes: education, migration/refugees, social movements, and disability. Proposals for grants are aligned to these themes and include activities such as research, publications, seminars, policy briefs, among others.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of charity's financial position at the end of the reporting period

The Centre made a deficit for the year of \$446,327 (2021: Surplus of \$131,023), in line with expectations. The Centre continues to grow and is financially stable as reflected in the balance sheet, with income received in advance available in cash, which allows current financial obligations and committed projects to be completed as planned.

Reserves

The Centre manages its cashflows very closely. A rolling 12-month forward looking forecast is conducted and revised on a quarterly basis, and a detailed budget review is conducted once every year. With that, we ensure that all commitments to grantees, contractors, and employees are within a good level of confidence.

At the year end the Centre had total reserves of \$36,640, of which \$32,572 were restricted (2021: \$113,814). Unrestricted funds were in a surplus of \$4,068 (2021: \$369,153). The Centre has no fixed reserve requirement, but Trustees regularly review the balance of funds.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Significant events that have affected the financial performance and financial position of the charity during the reporting period:

Lebanon's financial crisis: the Lebanese pound exchange rate continues to collapse to less than 85% of its value. Given the Centre has been prudent in keeping all grants and income in foreign currency, the financial crisis has not directly affected the Centre's financial condition.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks facing the charity are:

- Banking system and financial instability in Lebanon. Likelihood: High – Trustees and the Operations team are keeping a very close eye on new laws and decrees. Risk is substantially mitigated by grants being received in foreign currency and maintaining a maximum of one-month of local expenditures in Lebanon.
- Retention of core staff. Likelihood: Medium – Core staff are usually budgeted and hired on project basis, and until new funding is awarded, they are not receiving pay. The trustees took a decision to ensure that core staff are retained for short bridging periods in-between projects.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Nature of governing document

The Centre is a registered charity, number 298375 governed by a trust deed dated 22nd December 1987. It is governed by the trustees through regular meetings.

Trustees must be appointed by a majority vote of the governors, from the existing pool of governors. At every annual general meeting, existing trustees may either be reappointed or retire. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees elect from their number a Chairman and a Treasurer.

Once appointed, new trustees are inducted and receive a set of the trust's governance documents as well as guidance on the role of the trustee:

- Trust deed of the Centre for Lebanese Studies
- Charity Governance Code for larger charities
- Organisational Chart of the CLS
- Strategy, aims and objectives of CLS
- Bi-annual report that the Operation Team at CLS prepares for the trustees.

Relation between charity and related parties

The CLS operates in Lebanon through a local NGO called "Education Development Centre in Lebanon" (EDC). EDC was established in 2019 to enable the CLS to operate legally and to hire local research and administrative staff in Lebanon. EDC and CLS operate as one organisation and have a shared governance structure and policies as well as an integrated management, research and operational team.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Organisational structure

The Centre is managed by the Director, Dr. Maha Shuayb. She has two direct reports, 1) Director of Operations, Rachel Saliba, who is responsible for managing all operational activities of the Centre in all its locations, and 2) Deputy Director for Research, Dr. Cathrine Brun, who oversees all the research activities within the Centre. Dr. Shuayb reports directly to the Chairman, acting on behalf of the Trustees and Board of Governors.

Each project is managed by a project manager/Senior researcher who reports to the Director of Operations for administrative, financial, and communication matters and to the Director of Research for research and academic matters. He/she leads their respective team of junior researchers, research consultants, and research assistants.

The core operational team consists of 3 main departments: Finance, Administrative, and Communication. The Finance department consists of a part-time Finance Manager who oversees the work of the full-time Finance Officer. A Project Coordinator leads on the administrative and logistical tasks with the assistance of an Administration Assistant. The Senior Media and Communications Specialist is assisted by a Communications Officer and a Graphic designer.

Most of the researchers are contractors recruited for the term of the relevant project. They are all high-quality academic researchers that are recruited for their domain expertise. The majority of the staff of CLS and all the researchers hired to work on the ground in Lebanon are employed or contracted by EDC, which is an affiliate of CLS registered in Lebanon, for local legal, tax, and regulatory reasons.

Decision making

Trustees have independent control over, and legal responsibility for, a charity's management and administration. Under UK law, they have a duty to:

- Comply with CLS's governing document and the law
- Act in the charity's best interests
- Manage the charity's resources responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Ensure the charity is accountable
- Ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit

The Chairman of the Trustees of CLS and EDC is responsible for ensuring the proper operation of the Board of Trustees, including:

- Convening the necessary meetings
- Chairing them
- Ensuring they are properly minuted
- Overseeing compliance with reporting requirements.

He/she is a bank signatory. He/she will maintain direct personal contact with the Director and serve as her/his line manager.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

The Treasurer (who is also a Trustee) is responsible for reporting to the Board on financial matters. He/she is also a bank signatory.

The Treasurer is responsible at Board level for leading on:

- Making sure the charity keeps proper accounts
- Reviewing the charity's financial performance
- Ensuring that the charity has robust and effective financial controls in place
- Liaising with finance staff, the Accountant and the auditors

The Secretary (who is also a Trustee) is responsible at Board level for matters concerning staff employment, welfare and discipline. He/she may also be a bank signatory.

Other Trustees may also be appointed, one of whom could serve as Vice-Chairman.

Collectively, the Trustees are responsible for Board decisions. The Trustees will normally meet with the Director taking part in the meeting, but on occasions will meet on their own.

Decisions reserved for approval by the Board of Trustees:

- Appointment or variation in terms of Director and Senior Managers
- Changes and material deviations from strategy
- Policies and material exceptions to policies
- Creation or closing of offices, branches, legal entities
- New and material changes to existing institutional partnerships or close collaborations
- Financial commitments outside of approved project budgets that are greater than 10,000\$
- Anything that could reasonably conflict with the Centre's purpose or adversely affect its reputation
- Appointment of auditors and legal advisors

The Role of the Director of CLS and EDC

Subject to the decisions reserved by the Board of Trustees, the Director has full executive and operational responsibility for the charities, in both management and academic terms, reporting to the Board and seeking advance approval of major changes of activity, policy or structure. He/she is supported by a Director of Operations and Deputy Directors of Research.

Meetings

The board of governors meet twice a year.

The board of trustees meet two to four times a year with the Director of the Centre, the Director of Operations, and the Deputy Director of Research. A quarterly forecast is submitted to the Chairman and Treasurer, and an update on progress is submitted to the Board of Trustees every 6 months.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's key management personnel and any benchmarks in setting pay

A salary scale is in place, which is reviewed from time to time, and used to guide the pay of all staff at CLS. Salaries and contractor rates are benchmarked to those of academic researchers, universities and thinktanks by taking into account the position (level of seniority), years of experience, location, and educational level of employees. We also take into account length of contract, and whether it is a full time or short term contract. The Centre aims to attract among the best academic researchers in their field, and this is reflected within its competitive compensation.

Plans for future period

As part of the board meetings, CLS continues its research on the themes of education, refugees, disability and social movement. The directors based in the UK will be visiting Lebanon more often (at least 3 times a year) in order to support the research and work conducted in the country. Finally, we will continue to review closely the revolving situation in Lebanon and the wider region and respond accordingly both in terms of research and operations.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Additionally, trustees acknowledge their responsibility to identify, assess, and manage risks. The major risks related to the Centre that include the current uncertain and unstable financial situation in Lebanon as been reviewed and assessed and the necessary internal processes have been set up to manage those risks.

Approved by the trustees of the charity and signed on its behalf by:



Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee

Date: 30 October 2023

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Independent Examiner's Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Centre for Lebanese Studies ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

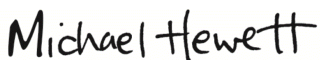
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect;

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 30 October 2023

M Hewett FCA DChA
Peters Elworthy and Moore
Chartered Accountants
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge
CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

		Restricted funds 2022 \$	Unrestricted funds 2022 \$	Total 2022 \$	Total 2021 \$
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	-	119,452	119,452	58,133
Charitable activities	3	481,707	541,890	1,023,597	1,198,368
Investment income	4	-	-	-	69
Total income		481,707	661,342	1,143,049	1,256,570
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5, 6	562,949	1,026,427	1,589,376	1,125,547
Total expenditure		562,949	1,026,427	1,589,376	1,125,547
Net income / (expenditure)		(81,242)	(365,085)	(446,327)	131,023
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	16	(81,242)	(365,085)	(446,327)	131,023
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forwards	16	113,814	369,153	482,967	351,944
Total funds carried forward	16	32,572	4,068	36,640	482,967

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2022

		2022		2021	
		\$	\$	\$	\$
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	11	-	-	-	-
Tangible fixed assets	12	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	21,310	21,185		
Cash at bank		294,698	675,512		
		316,008	696,697		
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(279,368)	(213,730)		
NET CURRENT ASSETS		36,640		482,967	
NET ASSETS		36,640		482,967	
FUNDS					
Restricted funds	16	32,572	113,814		
Unrestricted funds	16	4,068	369,153		
TOTAL FUNDS		36,640		482,967	

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:



.....
 Bassem Ziade
 Chairman and Trustee
 Date: 30 October 2023

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

		2022 \$	2021 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes		
Net cash used in operating activities	18	(380,814)	255,795
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		-	69
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		-	69
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		(380,814)	255,864
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		675,512	419,648
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u>294,698</u>	<u>675,512</u>

The notes on pages 15 to 26 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second edition October 2019 - effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Centre for Lebanese Studies meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Functional and presentational currency

The charity's functional currency is USDs and the presentational currency is USDs. The accounts were previously prepared in GBP, this change has therefore been applied retrospectively in order to bring comparatives in line.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity’s compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee’s meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% Reducing balance

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Funds

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee’s discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are subject to specific conditions by the donor as to how they may be used.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Restricted funds 2022 \$	Unrestricted funds 2022 \$	Total Funds 2022 \$	Total Funds 2021 \$
Donations and gifts	-	119,452	119,452	58,133
Trusts, foundations, and grants	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>119,452</u>	<u>119,452</u>	<u>58,133</u>

In 2021 all income was to unrestricted funds.

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Restricted funds 2022 \$	Unrestricted funds 2022 \$	Total Funds 2022 \$	Total Funds 2021 \$
Research grants	481,707	529,682	1,011,389	1,198,368
Other charitable activities	-	12,208	12,208	-
	<u>481,707</u>	<u>541,890</u>	<u>1,023,597</u>	<u>1,198,368</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Restricted funds 2022 \$	Unrestricted funds 2022 \$	Total Funds 2022 \$	Total Funds 2021 \$
Investment income	-	-	-	69
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69</u>

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Research	1,026,427	562,949	1,589,376	1,125,547
	<u>1,026,427</u>	<u>562,949</u>	<u>1,589,376</u>	<u>1,125,547</u>
Total 2021	<u>827,959</u>	<u>297,588</u>	<u>1,125,547</u>	

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Grant funding (note 7)	Direct costs	Support costs	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Research	114,238	1,452,058	23,080	1,589,376	1,125,547
	<u>114,238</u>	<u>1,452,058</u>	<u>23,080</u>	<u>1,589,376</u>	<u>1,125,547</u>
Total 2021	<u>73,286</u>	<u>974,571</u>	<u>77,690</u>	<u>1,125,547</u>	

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (continued)

ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Staff costs (Note 10)	247,695	130,183
Research fees	120,810	202,305
Project costs	961,198	643,587
Translation and editing	12,173	3,289
Travel	6,288	-
Communications	3,581	-
Other direct costs	16,578	160
Foreign exchange (gain) / loss	83,735	(4,953)
	<u>1,452,058</u>	<u>974,571</u>

ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Depreciation	-	10,151
Office and workshop	-	1,656
Rent	-	22,239
Other miscellaneous expenses	265	474
Subscriptions, advertising and website	4,336	7,526
Travel and accommodation	10,895	5,414
Accountancy and audit	4,248	12,596
Legal and consulting	-	15,094
Bank charges	3,336	2,540
	<u>23,080</u>	<u>77,690</u>

Included in support costs are governance costs of \$4,248 (2021: \$4,697), which represent fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner for the independent examination and preparation of the annual accounts.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Scholarships	63,468	50,770	114,238	73,286
	63,468	50,770	114,238	73,286
Total 2021	-	73,286	73,286	

Grants to individuals consists of scholarship grants paid out to four individuals.

Grants to institutions consist of scholarship grants and living expenses paid to individuals via their academic institution. During the year, the following payments were made to institutions:

Kings College University:	\$41,309
University College of London:	\$22,159

8. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year (2021: \$Nil).

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year (2021: \$Nil).

9. TAXATION

The Charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

10. EMPLOYEES

The payroll costs were as follows:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Wages and salaries	211,081	112,383
Social security costs	27,211	14,107
Pension costs	9,402	3,693
	<u>247,695</u>	<u>130,183</u>

The average monthly number of full time and part time employees during the year was:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
UK staff	2	1

The number of employees whose employee benefits (including redundancy costs but excluding employer's pension costs) was £60,000 or more was:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
£60,001 to £70,000	1	-
£70,001 to £80,000	-	1
£100,001 to £101,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel are defined as the Senior Management Team, incorporating the Managing Director, Director of Operations, and Deputy Director for Research.

The total employment benefits paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year were \$201,149 (2021: \$94,506).

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2022
	\$
	<i>Archives</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2022	17,307
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2022	17,307
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2022	17,307
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2022	17,307
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2022	-
At 31 December 2022	-

12. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	2022
	\$
	<i>Furniture & equipment</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2022	63,079
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2022	63,079
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2022	63,079
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2022	63,079
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2022	-
At 31 December 2022	-

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

13. DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Other debtors	784	3,273
Prepayments and accrued income	20,526	17,912
Total debtors	21,310	21,185

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Accruals	4,248	4,697
Deferred income (note 15)	275,120	209,033
Total creditors	279,368	213,730

15. DEFERRED INCOME

	\$
At 1 January 2022	209,033
Deferred in the year	275,120
Amounts used	(209,033)
At 31 December 2022	275,120

Deferred income represents unrestricted grant income received in advance.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

16. FUNDS AND RESERVES

CURRENT YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2022 \$	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Transfers \$	Balance at 31 December 2022 \$
Restricted funds – Research projects	113,814	481,707	(562,949)	-	32,572
Unrestricted funds	369,153	661,342	(1,026,427)	-	4,068
	482,967	1,143,049	(1,589,376)	-	36,640
PRIOR YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2021 \$	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Transfers \$	Balance at 31 December 2021 \$
Restricted funds – Research projects	-	408,675	(297,588)	2,727	113,814
Unrestricted funds	351,944	847,895	(827,959)	(2,727)	369,153
	351,944	1,256,570	(1,125,547)	-	482,967

Restricted funds – Research projects represent individual grants received for restricted projects. Amounts unspent on these grants are carried forward to be spent in line with the restrictions in future years.

Transfers – Transfers between funds represent overspends on restricted grant funded projects met by unrestricted funds.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Total 2022
	\$	\$	\$
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	63,436	252,572	316,008
Current liabilities	(59,368)	(220,000)	(279,368)
	<u>4,068</u>	<u>32,572</u>	<u>36,640</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2021	Restricted funds 2021	Total 2021
	\$	\$	\$
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	582,883	113,814	696,697
Current liabilities	(213,730)	-	(213,730)
	<u>369,153</u>	<u>113,814</u>	<u>482,967</u>

18. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Net income for the year	<u>(446,327)</u>	<u>131,023</u>
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation charges	-	10,163
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments	-	(69)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(125)	(9,286)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	65,638	127,544
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	<u>(380,814)</u>	<u>259,375</u>

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 January 2022 \$	Cashflows \$	At 31 December 2022 \$
Cash at bank and in hand	675,512	(380,814)	294,698
	675,512	(380,814)	294,698

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, transfers amounting to \$869,794 (2021: \$589,937) were paid to an affiliated NGO entity Education Dev. Center in Lebanon, established to hire local staff and enable CLS to fulfil its objectives.

During the year, donations amounting to \$119,452 were received from two trustees to then be paid out as scholarships (2021: one trustee amounting to \$52,773).

Accounts

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Annual report and Financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Charity Number: 298375 (England and Wales)

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31 December 2021

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Centre for Lebanese Studies

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Bassem Ziade
Trustees	Edward Asseily Youssef Khlat Dalia Salaam Rishani Ghias El Yafi Bassem Ziade
Governors	Alexandra Asseily Edward Asseily Leila Bouheiry Youssaf Khlat Dalia Salaam Rishini Ghias El Yafi Vida Hamd (resigned 27 th January 2022) Gilbert Doumit James Watt Bassem Ziade Izzat Darwazeh (appointed 27 th January 2022) Andrew Arsan (appointed 27 th January 2022)
Senior Management Team	Dr Maha Shuayb, Managing Director Rachel Saliba, Director of Operations Dr Cathrine Brun, Deputy Director for Research
Principal Office	Faculty of Education, 184 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 8PQ
Charity Registration Number	298375
Independent Examiner	Michael Hewett FCA DChA Peters Elworthy & Moore Salisbury House Station Road Cambridge CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is an independent academic research institution, which seeks to promote international understanding of Lebanon and the issues facing it, by undertaking high quality independent research and encouraging discussion and learning through lectures, conferences, workshops, and publications. The Centre also seeks to inform policymakers and make recommendations based on research findings in connection with issues facing Lebanon.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and in particular to its two key principles, that there must be identifiable benefit and that the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public. The Trustees are satisfied that the activities and purpose of the Centre, as described above and in the accompanying financial statements, fully meet the public benefit requirements.

Achievements and performance

The Centre for Lebanese Studies continued its work in the fields of education, refugees, and disability despite the challenges and difficulties that occurred in Lebanon and worldwide in 2021.

On the theme of education, CLS conducted a rapid assessment to examine the impact of COVID-19 on education and employment in Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine. This study aimed to examine the education provisions during the COVID-19 crisis and the impact of the crisis on the schooling of children in Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine. The study focused on the education provisions offered by public, private and NGOs sectors. More specifically, it aimed to understand the impact on access and quality of teaching and learning for national as well as refugee children. The study focused on primary and secondary education as well as on vocational education.

Similarly, an Open Society funded project, carried out qualitative ethnographic research with teachers and students from selected public and private formal schools as well as informal schools and education spaces ran by (I)NGOs in Lebanon. It used a collaborative process to develop teachers' support MOOC delivering quality teaching and learning training and courses for distance learning. The project examined various teaching and learning models provided by the government, private institutions, and (I)NGOs during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also explored opportunities and challenges of distance education amid COVID-19. The project also develops teacher trainings, resources, and community-based solutions and initiatives.

An ongoing project funded by Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and led by Alert international aims to develop new approaches for integrated non-formal education and child protection services that address Violence Against Children continued. Throughout 2021, a Child Protection Policy was updated within CLS and disseminated among its staff. Two learning papers on positive discipline and teachers' wellbeing were finalised. Several videos were developed and disseminated in order to create awareness against violence against children.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

The Open Society Foundations funded project, which is part of the “Integrity and Accountability in the Lebanese Educational System” initiative, was implemented over the whole year. Research was conducted on the legal and financial areas related to the Lebanese educational system. Additionally, semi-structured interviews were conducted with decision makers and experts within the education sector.

Additionally, CLS is conducting a study on transparency in education (or its lack thereof), funded by the Open Society Foundation. The overarching goal of this project is to push for a transparent and effective reform of the educational sector in Lebanon through an advocacy campaign that aims at disseminating the result of the research project, so as to affect decision makers, and lobby for integrity in education.

The Centre finalized the third wave of data collection for a comparative and longitudinal study in Lebanon, Turkey and Australia in a project titled “Towards an Inclusive Education for Refugees: A Comparative Longitudinal Study”, to examine the impact of settlement and education provisions in different settings on the education progression of refugee children over a five-year period. This was funded by the Spencer Foundation.

CLS was recently granted a British Academy Bi-Lateral Chair funding. Through a “policy ethnography”, this study analyses the evolution of the education response, the rationales, and interests of the different local and international parties including UN agencies and donors and impact on the schooling outcomes of refugees and host communities. The research aims to provide much needed evidence that can inform our thinking and understanding around effective and sustainable education policies and provisions in contexts of emergency and conflict. Additionally, two further projects that focus on civic engagement in Lebanon received grants from IDRC in late 2021.

In 2020, CLS in partnership of a consortium with eight universities and research centers in Europe and Canada was awarded a Horizon 2020 grant. The project examines how protection seekers experience their vulnerabilities and how these experiences are continuously shaped and produced in interaction with the legal and policy frameworks and implementation practices of the relevant decision-makers. More than half-way through the three-year comparative research project that investigates the implementation of the concept of the vulnerability of protection seekers in Lebanon, data collection was finalised and the second year report is being written.

One other major theme in CLS’s work education is curriculum reform. A major conference was held early 2021 with the aim to rethink and re-center the debate around curriculum reform in the Arab world by addressing both the social, cultural, and political underpinnings of curriculum as well as the processes of curriculum development.

On the theme of disability, the Disability Research and Advocacy Hub continued its work on addressing the main issues related to disability in Lebanon. Following the Beirut Blast in 2020, a series of educational and awareness material were established and disseminated to create awareness and advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, CLS continued its work as part of the four-year project funded by Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and a development funding for the project by Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) with a purpose to investigate research needs on disability and education, and to then provide intellectual, financial, and logistical resources required by local practitioners to deliver a transformational change in education provision for children with disabilities in conflict affected states, primarily Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine. Also, within the research theme of disability, CLS moved forward with the project funded by the U.S.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

embassy in Lebanon, which aims at empowering women with disabilities. While the MOOC was aimed to be launched in 2022, research and content preparation took place in 2021.

CLS in Jordan has been working on a project on the evaluation of refugee-led organisations, that aims to understand the factors that influence the impact of refugee-led organisations as service-delivery providers in humanitarian settings in the Middle East and East Africa. Also, CLS in Jordan was granted a project at the end of 2021 on the journeys of refugees and national in Jordan through the labour market.

Finally, the Centre also awarded one research bursaries in Lebanon and one Masters' scholarship in the UK in 2021. All the bursaries, grants and other assistance provided by the Centre are awarded on an objective basis in accordance with advertised selection criteria.

Grant-raising

The Centre's main income is from grants received from various funding organisations such as charities, academic institutions, think-tanks, and national and international development agencies.

The Director of the Centre pinpoints funding opportunities and works with a potential grantee to explore and develop a funding proposal. The trustees are informed of such proposals as well as new grants at regular intervals.

Based on the Centre's strategy that is formulated with the trustees, the CLS currently focuses on four major themes: education, migration/refugees, social movements, and disability. Proposals for grants are aligned to these themes and include activities such as research, publications, seminars, policy briefs, among others.

Financial Review

Review of charity's financial position at the end of the reporting period

The Centre made a surplus for the year of £97,075, in line with expectations. The Centre continues to grow and is financially stable as reflected in the balance sheet, with an accumulated surplus available in cash, which allows current financial obligations and committed projects to be completed as planned.

Reserves

The Centre manages its cashflows very closely. A rolling 12-month forward looking forecast is conducted and revised on a quarterly basis, and a detailed budget review is conducted once every year. With that, we ensure that all commitments to grantees, contractors, and employees are within a good level of confidence.

At the year end the Centre had total reserves of £357,832, of which £84,326 were restricted (2020: £Nil), and £273,506 were unrestricted (2020: £260,757). While the Centre does not currently have a specific reserve requirement, the reserves policy is currently under review.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Significant events that have affected the financial performance and financial position of the charity during the reporting period:

Lebanon's financial crisis: the Lebanese pound exchange rate continues to collapse to less than 85% of its value. Given the Centre has been prudent in keeping all grants and income in foreign currency, the financial crisis has not directly affected the Centre's financial condition.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks facing the charity are:

- Banking system and financial instability in Lebanon. Likelihood: High – Trustees and the Operations team are keeping a very close eye on new laws and decrees. Risk is substantially mitigated by grants being received in foreign currency and maintaining a maximum of one-month of local expenditures in Lebanon.
- Retention of core staff. Likelihood: Medium – Core staff are usually budgeted and hired on project basis, and until new funding is awarded, they are not receiving pay. The trustees took a decision to ensure that core staff are retained for short bridging periods in-between projects.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Nature of governing document

The Centre is a registered charity, number 298375 governed by a trust deed dated 22nd December 1987. It is managed by the trustees through regular meetings.

Trustees must be appointed by a majority vote of the governors, from the existing pool of governors. At every annual general meeting, existing trustees may either be reappointed or retire. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees elect from their number a Chairman and a Treasurer.

Once appointed, new trustees are inducted and receive a set of the trust's governance documents as well as guidance on the role of the trustee:

- Trust deed of the Centre for Lebanese Studies
- Charity Governance Code for larger charities
- Organisational Chart of the CLS
- Strategy, aims and objectives of CLS
- Bi-annual report that the Operation Team at CLS prepares for the trustees.

Relation between charity and related parties

The CLS operates in Lebanon through a local NGO called "Education Development Centre in Lebanon" (EDC). EDC was established in 2019 to enable the CLS to operate legally and to hire local research and administrative staff in Lebanon. EDC and CLS operate as one organization and have a shared governance structure and policies as well as an integrated management, research and operational team.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Organisational structure

The Centre is managed by the Director, Dr. Maha Shuayb. She has two direct reports, 1) Director of Operations, Rachel Saliba, who is responsible for managing all operational activities of the Centre in all its locations, and 2) Deputy Director for Research, Dr. Cathrine Brun, who oversees all the research activities within the Centre. Dr. Shuayb reports directly to the Chairman, acting on behalf of the Trustees and Board of Governors.

Each project is managed by a project manager/Senior researcher who reports to the Director of Operations for administrative, financial, and communication matters and to the Director of Research for research and academic matters. He/she leads their respective team of junior researchers, research consultants, and research assistants.

The core operational team consists of 3 main departments: Finance, Administrative, and Communication. The Finance department consists of a part-time Finance Manager who oversees the work of the full-time Finance Officer. The Finance Officer oversees the work of the Finance and Admin Assistant. A Project Coordinator leads on the administrative and logistical tasks. The Senior Media and Communications Specialist is assisted by a Communications Officer and a part-time Graphic designer.

Most of the researchers are contractors recruited for the term of the relevant project. The majority of the staff of CLS and all the researchers hired to work on the ground in Lebanon are employed or contracted by EDC, which is an affiliate of CLS registered in Lebanon, for local legal, tax, and regulatory reasons.

Decision making

Trustees have independent control over, and legal responsibility for, a charity's management and administration. Under UK law, they have a duty to:

- Comply with CLS's governing document and the law
- Act in the charity's best interests
- Manage the charity's resources responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Ensure the charity is accountable
- Ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit

The Chairman of the Trustees of CLS and EDC is responsible for ensuring the proper operation of the Board of Trustees, including:

- convening the necessary meetings
- chairing them
- ensuring they are properly minuted
- overseeing compliance with reporting requirements.

He/she is a bank signatory. He/she will maintain direct personal contact with the Director and serve as her/his line manager.

The Treasurer (who is also a Trustee) is responsible for reporting to the Board on financial matters. He/she is also a bank signatory.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

The Treasurer is responsible at Board level for leading on:

- making sure the charity keeps proper accounts
- reviewing the charity's financial performance
- ensuring that the charity has robust and effective financial controls in place
- liaising with finance staff, the Accountant and the auditors

The Secretary (who is also a Trustee) is responsible at Board level for matters concerning staff employment, welfare and discipline. He/she may also be a bank signatory.

Other Trustees may also be appointed, one of whom could serve as Vice-Chairman.

Collectively, the Trustees are responsible for Board decisions.

The Trustees will normally meet with the Director taking part in the meeting, but on occasions will meet on their own.

Decisions reserved for approval by the Board of Trustees:

- Appointment or variation in terms of Director and Senior Managers
- Changes and material deviations from strategy
- Policies and material exceptions to policies
- Creation or closing of offices, branches, legal entities
- New and material changes to existing institutional partnerships or close collaborations
- Financial commitments outside of approved project budgets that are greater than 10,000\$
- Anything that could reasonably conflict with the Centre's purpose or adversely affect its reputation
- Appointment of auditors and legal advisors

The Role of the Director of CLS and EDC

Subject to the decisions reserved by the Board of Trustees, the Director has full executive and operational responsibility for the charities, in both management and academic terms, reporting to the Board and seeking advance approval of major changes of activity, policy or structure. He/she is supported by a Director of Operations and Deputy Directors of Research.

Meetings

The board of governors meet twice a year.

The board of trustees meet two to four times a year with the Director of the Centre, the Director of Operations, and the Deputy Director of Research. A quarterly forecast is submitted to the Chairman and Treasurer, and an update on progress is submitted to the Board of Trustees every 6 months.

Two-year strategy

A two-year strategy has been developed by CLS team, in consultation with the Research Committee and Board of Trustees.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's key management personnel and any benchmarks in setting pay

A salary scale is in place, which is reviewed from time to time, and used to guide the pay of all staff at CLS. Salaries and contractor rates are benchmarked to those of academic researchers, universities and thinktanks by taking into account the position (level of seniority), years of experience, location, and educational level of employees. We also take into account length of contract, and whether it is a full time or short term contract. The Centre aims to attract among the best academic researchers in their field, and this is reflected within its competitive compensation.

Plans for future period

The Centre's focus and strategy was revised in 2021. While the themes of education, refugees, and disability remain unchanged, CLS has added a new theme that focuses on social movements. Moreover, given that the COVID-19 travel restrictions have decreased, CLS plans to conduct more face-to-face meetings and conferences, and this requires a higher budget for travel and accommodation. Finally, we will continue to review closely the revolving situation in Lebanon and the wider region and respond accordingly both in terms of research and operations.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Additionally, trustees acknowledge their responsibility to identify, assess, and manage risks. The major risks related to the Centre that include the current uncertain and unstable financial situation in Lebanon as been reviewed and assessed and the necessary internal processes have been set up to manage those risks.

Approved by the trustees of the charity and signed on its behalf by:



Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee

Date: 19 October 2022

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Independent Examiner's Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Centre for Lebanese Studies ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

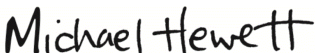
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect;

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 19 October 2022

M Hewett FCA DChA
Peters Elworthy and Moore
Chartered Accountants
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge
CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

		Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	-	42,201	42,201	9,634
Charitable activities	3	296,674	573,268	869,942	791,310
Investment income	4	-	50	50	299
Total income		296,674	615,519	912,193	801,243
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5, 6	214,328	600,790	815,118	684,939
Total expenditure		214,328	600,790	815,118	684,939
Net income / (expenditure)		82,346	14,729	97,075	116,304
Transfers between funds		1,980	(1,980)	-	-
Net movement in funds	16	84,326	12,749	97,075	116,304
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forwards	16	-	260,757	260,757	144,453
Total funds carried forward	16	84,326	273,506	357,832	260,757

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 22 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2021

			2021		2020
		£	£	£	£
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	11		-		-
Tangible fixed assets	12		-		7,370
			-		7,370
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	15,695		8,906	
Cash at bank		500,491		308,338	
		516,186		317,244	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(158,354)		(63,857)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			357,832		253,387
NET ASSETS			357,832		260,757
FUNDS					
Restricted funds	16		84,326		-
Unrestricted funds	16		273,506		260,757
TOTAL FUNDS			357,832		260,757

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee
Date: 19 October 2022

The notes on pages 14 to 22 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

		2021 £	2020 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes		
Net cash used in operating activities	18	192,103	174,833
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		50	299
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		50	299
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		192,153	175,132
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		308,338	133,206
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		500,491	308,338

The notes on pages 14 to 22 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second edition October 2019 - effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Centre for Lebanese Studies meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Functional and presentational currency

The charity's functional currency is USDs and the presentational currency is GBPs.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% Reducing balance

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund Structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are subject to specific conditions by the donor as to how they may be used.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations and gifts	-	42,201	42,201	9,634
Trusts, foundations and grants	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>42,201</u>	<u>42,201</u>	<u>9,634</u>

In 2020 all income was to unrestricted funds.

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Research grants	296,674	573,268	869,942	791,310
	<u>296,674</u>	<u>573,268</u>	<u>869,942</u>	<u>791,310</u>

In 2020 all income was to unrestricted funds.

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Investment income	-	50	50	299
	<u>-</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>299</u>

In 2020 all income was to unrestricted funds.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds 2020
	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Research	600,790	214,328	815,118	684,939
	<u>600,790</u>	<u>214,328</u>	<u>815,118</u>	<u>684,939</u>
Total 2020	<u>684,939</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>684,939</u>	

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Grant funding (note 7)	Direct costs	Support costs	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Research	53,201	710,959	50,958	815,118	684,939
	<u>53,201</u>	<u>710,959</u>	<u>50,958</u>	<u>815,118</u>	<u>684,939</u>
Total 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>652,745</u>	<u>32,194</u>	<u>684,939</u>	

In 2020 all expenditure was to unrestricted funds.

ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS

	Activities 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Research and project costs	<u>710,959</u>	<u>710,959</u>	<u>652,745</u>
Total 2020	<u>652,745</u>	<u>652,745</u>	

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (continued)

ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation	7,369	7,369
Office and workshop	1,202	10,699
Rent	16,144	3,068
Other miscellaneous expenses	425	7,605
Subscriptions, advertising and website	5,498	6,543
Travel and accommodation	3,930	14,878
Accountancy and audit	9,144	2,070
Legal and consulting	10,957	2,381
Bank charges	1,844	2,445
Foreign exchange gain	(5,555)	(24,864)
	50,958	32,914

In 2020 all expenditure was to unrestricted funds.

Included in support costs are governance costs of £3,480 (2020: £3,240), which represent fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner for the independent examination and preparation of the annual accounts.

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Scholarships	-	53,201	53,201	-
	-	53,201	53,201	-
Total 2020	-	-	-	

Grants to individuals consists of scholarship grants paid out to two individuals.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

8. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year (2020: £Nil).

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year (2020: £Nil).

9. TAXATION

The Charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

10. EMPLOYEES

The Charity had no employees during the year (2020: £Nil).

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2021
	£
	<i>Archives</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2021	12,823
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2021	12,823
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2021	12,823
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2021	12,823
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2021	-
At 31 December 2021	-

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

12. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	2021 £ <i>Furniture & equipment</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2021	46,735
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2021	46,735
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2021	39,366
Charge for the year	7,369
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2021	46,735
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2021	7,369
At 31 December 2021	-

13. DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Prepayments	2,425	8,906
Accrued income	13,270	-
Total debtors	15,695	8,906

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Other creditors	-	7,997
Accruals	3,480	55,860
Deferred income (note 15)	154,874	-
Total creditors	158,354	63,857

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

15. DEFERRED INCOME

	£
At 1 January 2021	-
Deferred in the year	154,874
Amounts used	-
At 31 December 2021	154,874

Deferred income represents unrestricted grant income received in advance.

16. FUNDS AND RESERVES

CURRENT YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Restricted funds – Research projects	-	296,674	(214,328)	1,980	84,325
Unrestricted funds	<u>260,757</u>	<u>615,519</u>	<u>(600,790)</u>	<u>(1,980)</u>	<u>273,506</u>
	<u>260,757</u>	<u>912,193</u>	<u>(815,118)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>357,832</u>
PRIOR YEAR	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
Unrestricted funds	<u>144,453</u>	<u>801,243</u>	<u>(684,939)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>260,757</u>
	<u>144,453</u>	<u>801,243</u>	<u>(684,939)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>260,757</u>

Restricted funds - Research projects represent individual grants received for restricted projects. Amounts unspent on these grants are carried forward to be spent in line with the restrictions in future years.

Transfers – transfers between funds represent overspends on restricted grant funded projects met by unrestricted funds.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2021	Restricted funds 2021	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	431,860	84,326	516,186
Current liabilities	(158,354)	-	(158,354)
	273,506	84,326	357,832

	Unrestricted funds 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Tangible assets	7,370	-	7,370
Current assets	317,244	-	317,244
Current liabilities	(63,857)	-	(63,857)
	260,757	-	260,757

18. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the year	97,075	116,304
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation charges	7,369	7,369
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments	(50)	(299)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(6,789)	(8,906)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	94,498	60,365
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	192,103	174,833

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 January 2021	Cashflows	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	308,338	192,153	500,491
	<u>308,338</u>	<u>192,153</u>	<u>500,491</u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year transfers amounting to £428,259 (2020 £252,391) were paid to an affiliated NGO entity Education Dev. Center in Lebanon, established to hire local staff and enable CLS to fulfil its objectives.

Accounts

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Annual report and Financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Charity Number: 298375 (England and Wales)

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31 December 2020

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Centre for Lebanese Studies

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Bassem Ziade
Trustees	Edward Asseily Youssef Khat Dalia Salaam Rishani Ghias El Yafi Bassem Ziade
Governors	George Asseily Alexandra Asseily Edward Asseily Leila Bouheiry Mouhammed Choukeir Youssef Khat Dalia Salaam Rishini Ghias El Yafi Vida Hamd Gilbert Doumit James Watt Bassem Ziade
Senior Management Team	Dr Maha Shuayb, Director Rachel Saliba, Director of Operations Dr Cathrine Brun, Deputy Director for Research
Principal Office	Faculty of Education 184 Hills Road Cambridge CB2 8PQ
Charity Registration Number	298375
Independent Examiner	M Hewett ACA DChA Peters Elworthy & Moore Salisbury House Station Road Cambridge CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Trustees' Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees present their report together with the audited financial statements of Centre for Lebanese Studies (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2020. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity and the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (second edition of the Charities SORP (FRS102) October 2019).

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is an independent academic research institution, which: First, seeks to promote international understanding of Lebanon and the issues facing it, by undertaking high quality independent research and encouraging discussion and learning through lectures, conferences, workshops, and publications. Second, the Centre seeks to inform policymakers in Lebanon and make recommendations based on research findings in connection with issues facing the country.

Grant-raising

The Centre's main income is from grants received from various funding organisations such as charities, academic institutions, think-tanks, and national and international development agencies.

The Director of the Centre pinpoints funding opportunities and works with a potential grantee to explore and develop a funding proposal. The trustees are informed of such proposals as well as new grants on a quarterly basis.

Based on the Centre's strategy that is formulated with the trustees, the CLS currently focuses on four major themes: education, refugees, social movements, and disability. Proposals for grants are aligned to these themes and include activities such as research, publications, seminars, policy briefs, among others.

Achievements and performance

The Centre for Lebanese Studies continued its work in the fields of education, refugees, and disability in spite of the challenges and difficulties that occurred in Lebanon during the whole course of 2020.

The Open Society Foundations funded project on qualitative ethnographic research with teachers and students from selected public and private formal schools as well as informal schools and education spaces run by (I)NGOs in Lebanon, has continued. It uses a collaborative process to develop teachers' support MOOC courses for distance learning. The project examines various teaching and learning models provided by the government, private institutions, and (I)NGOs during the COVID 19 pandemic. It also explores opportunities and challenges of distance education amid COVID-19. The project also develops teacher trainings, resources, and community-based solutions and initiatives.

A similar study was conducted with a local partner that was directed towards understanding factors that affect Syrian students' performance in grade 9 official examination (the Brevet) and investigate barriers and challenges students sitting for the Brevet examination face.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Open Society Foundations also funded a project which is part of a longer-term initiative entitled “Integrity and Accountability in the Lebanese Educational System” that the Centre for Lebanese Studies launched this year. The aim of this initiative is to bring together the research expertise of the Centre with a coalition of key actors in this field to work together and push for a transparent and effective reform of the educational sector in Lebanon. In addition to research and lobbying, the initiative includes an advocacy tool which will help disseminate the research findings to the wider public, to raise awareness and improve accountability.

The Centre also launched a project funded by Catalyst Foundation for Universal Education that aims to pilot a 15-month program with the goal of enhancing its bilingual educational Digital Toolkit (Arabic-English) platform. The platform includes teacher-training along with student learning material. With COVID-19 and civil unrest, digital and remote learning and teaching capabilities are key to ensuring learners do not fall behind and teachers can maintain their livelihoods. Finally, support of this pilot project will ensure sustainability of this and similar projects. The training of teachers and administrators at partner schools in the UAE and Jordan will benefit other teachers in these schools through knowledge sharing and improvements to best practices in digital learning.

The project funded by Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and led by Alert international that aims to develop new approaches for integrated non-formal education and child protection services that address violence against children continues. The project’s outcome is knowledge production and increased capacity of schools and learning centres to reduce violence against children in areas with high concentration of refugees.

The Centre is proceeding with the third wave of data collection for a comparative and longitudinal study in Lebanon, Turkey and Australia, to examine the impact of settlement and education provisions in different settings on the education progression of refugee children over a five-year period, funded by the Spencer Foundation. Additionally, the Turkey report of this project was published.

The Centre brought the plight of refugee and underprivileged populations to the forefront of academic research again, in the hope of understanding and producing more informed strategies for addressing the crisis. The previously launched project entitled “From Education to Employment, youth trajectories in Jordan and Lebanon in the context of protracted displacement” continues. The program was awarded a grant by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Canada and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), and is implemented in partnership with the Centre for Development and Emergency Practice (CENDEP) at Oxford Brookes University in the UK, as well as two local Lebanese non-governmental organizations: Al Jana and Lil Madina. Data collection and analysis were conducted in 2020 with the plan to publish and disseminate the results.

CLS in partnership with a consortium of eight universities and research centres in Europe and Canada have been awarded Horizon 2020 grant to examine how protection seekers experience their vulnerabilities and how these experiences are continuously shaped and produced in interaction with the legal and policy frameworks and implementation practices of the relevant decision-makers. A three-year comparative research project continues as it investigates the implementation of the concept of the vulnerability of protection seekers in Lebanon. Including a legal and empirical study, the project documents, evaluates and reflects on how vulnerabilities of protection seekers are being assessed and addressed in Lebanon’s protection regime. A first-year report was submitted to the funding organization and data collection will begin in the following year.

On the theme of disability, several consultations were conducted with experts, academics, and activists in disability in order to prepare the strategy for the upcoming year as well as the medium- and long-term plans for the Disability Hub. Workshops in collaboration with INGOs such as UNESCWA and ICRC were also conducted. Furthermore, various campaigns were also conducted in order to advocate for persons with disabilities’ rights.

Also, within the research theme of disability, the project funded by the U.S. embassy in Lebanon continues. The project aims at empowering women with disabilities. This project sets to create a rights-based blended learning

Centre for Lebanese Studies

program composed of a four-week MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) offered in Lebanese spoken language with English and Arabic subtitles, coupled with online peer-support, networking and advocacy training as well as individual and group coaching, directed towards young (18-35 years) Women with Disabilities (WwDs) in Lebanon and the MENA region. The purpose of the project is to empower WwDs to become social change makers by creating better lives for themselves and engaging in civic action. Through consultations with experts and activists in Lebanon and various countries within the Arab region, the topics for the MOOCs were selected.

Following the Port of Beirut explosion, a small grant was awarded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) that aims at mapping the current initiatives taking place in Lebanon and assess their level of inclusivity. A report as well as a dissemination plan were conducted.

Finally, the Centre launched various opportunities for bursaries for scholars and research fellows in Lebanon to be selected in 2021.

Financial Review

Result for the year

The Centre made a surplus for the year of £116,303 in line with expectations. The Centre continues to grow and is financially stable as reflected in the balance sheet, with an accumulated surplus available in cash, which allows current financial obligations and committed projects to be completed as planned.

Significant events that have affected the financial performance and financial position of the charity during the reporting period:

1) The financial effect of significant events

Three main events affected CLS from a financial perspective:

- a. Lebanon's financial crisis: the Lebanese pound exchange rate collapsed to less than 85% of its value. Given the Centre has been prudent in keeping all grants and income in foreign currency, the financial crisis has not directly affected the Centre's financial condition.
- b. Capital Controls in Lebanon: Banks in Lebanon imposed capital controls, restricting the movement of funds outside the country. However, the Centre took the precaution of ensuring that almost all grant income and surplus funds are received and held in its bank accounts in the UK. Funds are transferred to Lebanon on a monthly basis according to the amounts required for local expenditure per month, thereby limiting exposure to the Lebanese banking system.
- c. The COVID pandemic and consequent lockdowns: We renegotiated the timeframe of delivery of projects with funding agencies, where required. Several grants were extended either with cost or no-cost extensions. Furthermore, operational procedures were put in place to ensure that staff would be able to continue working remotely from home. Overall, there were minimal disruptions to the operations of the Centre, and it met its obligations and objectives.

Reserves

The Centre manages its cashflows very closely. A 12-months forward looking forecast is conducted and revised on a quarterly basis, and a detailed budget review is conducted once every year. With that, we ensure that all commitments to grantees, contractors, and employees are within a good level of confidence.

At the year end the Centre had total, and unrestricted, reserves of £260,757. While the Centre does not currently have a specific reserve requirement, the reserves policy is currently under review.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

2) Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks facing the charity are:

- Operational feasibility of working from Lebanon. Likelihood: High – Trustees are ensuring that certain staff, where appropriate, have the possibility of working from home or from abroad.
- Banking system and financial instability in Lebanon. Likelihood: High – Trustees and the Operations team are keeping a very close eye on new laws and decrees. Risk is substantially mitigated by grants being received in foreign currency and maintaining a maximum of one-month of local expenditures in Lebanon.
- Changing funding environment; Likelihood: Low – The Centre is forward looking and manages income and expenditure on a 12-months rolling basis thus ensuring that all possible expenditures are in line with available funding. Trustees and the Senior staff are continually looking into additional funding opportunities particularly to replace existing projects that will soon end. Moreover, resources are employed on a project basis, which ensures we can match our income with our expenditure as closely as possible.

Structure, governance, and management

The Centre is a registered charity, number 298375 governed by a trust deed dated 22nd December 1987.

It is governed by the trustees through regular meetings.

Trustees must be appointed by a majority vote of the governors, from the existing pool of governors. At every annual general meeting, existing trustees may either be reappointed or retire. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees elect from their number a Chairman and a Treasurer.

Once appointed, new trustees are inducted and receive a set of the trust's governance documents as well as guidance on the role of the trustee:

- Trust deed of the Centre for Lebanese Studies
- Charity Governance Code for larger charities
- Organisational Chart of the CLS
- Strategy, aims and objectives of CLS
- Bi-annual report that the Operation Team at CLS prepares for the trustees.

Relation between charity and related parties

The CLS operates in Lebanon through a local NGO called "Education Development Centre in Lebanon" (EDC). EDC was established in 2019 to enable the CLS to operate legally and to hire local research and administrative staff in Lebanon. EDC and CLS operate as one organization and have a shared governance structure and policies as well as an integrated management, research and operational team.

Organisational structure

The Centre is managed by the Director, Dr. Maha Shuayb. She has two direct reports, 1) Director of Operations, Rachel Saliba, who is responsible for managing all operational activities of the Centre in all its locations, and 2) Deputy Director for Research, Dr. Cathrine Brun, who oversees all the research activities within the Centre. Dr. Shuayb reports directly to the Chairman, acting on behalf of the Trustees and Board of Governors.

Each project is managed by a project manager/Senior researcher who reports to the Director of Operations for administrative, financial, and communication matters and to the Director of Research for research and academic matters. He/she leads their respective team of junior researchers, research consultants, and research assistants.

The core operational team consists of 3 main departments: Finance, Administrative, and Communication. The Finance department consists of a part-time Finance Manager who oversees the work of the full-time Finance

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Officer. A Project Coordinator leads on the administrative and logistical tasks. The Media and Communications Manager is assisted by a Communications Coordinator and a part-time Graphic designer.

Most of the researchers are contractors recruited for the term of the relevant project. The majority of the staff of CLS and all the researchers hired to work on the ground in Lebanon are employed or contracted by EDC, which is an affiliate of CLS registered in Lebanon, for local legal, tax, and regulatory reasons.

Decision making

Trustees have independent control over, and legal responsibility for, a charity's management and administration. Under UK law, they have a duty to

- Comply with CLS's governing document and the law
- Act in the charity's best interests
- Manage the charity's resources responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Ensure the charity is accountable
- Ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit

The **Chairman** of the Trustees of CLS and EDC is responsible for ensuring the proper operation of the Board of Trustees, including:

- convening the necessary meetings
- chairing them
- ensuring they are properly recorded
- overseeing compliance with reporting requirements.

He/she is a bank signatory. He/she will maintain direct personal contact with the Director and serve as her/his line manager.

The **Treasurer** (who is also a Trustee) is responsible for reporting to the Board on financial matters. He/she is also a bank signatory.

He/she is responsible at Board level for leading on:

- making sure the charity keeps proper accounts
- reviewing the charity's financial performance
- ensuring that the charity has robust and effective financial controls in place
- liaising with finance staff, the Accountant and the auditors

The **Secretary** (who is also a Trustee) is responsible at Board level for matters concerning staff employment, welfare and discipline. He/she may also be a bank signatory.

Other Trustees may also be appointed, one of whom could serve as **Vice-Chairman**.

Collectively, the Trustees are responsible for Board decisions.

The Trustees will normally meet with the Director taking part in the meeting, but on occasions will meet on their own.

Decisions reserved for approval by the Board of Trustees:

Centre for Lebanese Studies

- Appointment or variation in terms of Director and Senior Managers
- Changes and material deviations from strategy
- Policies and material exceptions to policies
- Creation or closing of offices, branches, legal entities
- New and material changes to existing institutional partnerships or close collaborations
- Financial commitments outside of approved project budgets greater than 10,000\$
- Any action that could reasonably conflict with the the Centre's purpose or adversely affect its reputation
- Appointment of auditors

The Role of the Director of CLS and EDC

Subject to the decisions reserved by the Board of Trustees, the Director has full executive and operational responsibility for the charities, in both management and academic terms, reporting to the Board and seeking advance approval of major changes of activity, policy or structure. He/She is supported by a Director of Operations and Deputy Directors of Research.

Meetings

The board of governors meet twice a year

The board of trustees meet four times a year with the director where a quarterly forecast and update on progress and plans is shared.

Two year strategy

A two strategy is developed by CLS team, in consultation with the Research Committee and Board of Trustees.

Arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's key management personnel and any benchmarks in setting pay

A salary scale is in place, which is reviewed from time to time, and used to guide the pay of all staff at CLS. Salaries and contractor rates are benchmarked to those of academic researchers, universities and thinktanks by taking into account the position (level of seniority), years of experience, location, and educational level of employees. We also take into account length of contract, and whether it is a full time or short term contract. The Centre aims to attract among the best academic researchers in their field, and this is reflected within its competitive compensation.

Plans for future period

The Director of the Centre, Dr. Maha Shuayb moved to the UK in April 2021. This decision will re-establish a base in Cambridge as well as to provide greater connectivity with academic institutions in the region. The Centre's focus and strategy remains unchanged and focuses on the themes of disability, social movements, education and refugees.

Finally, we will continue to review closely the revolving situation in Lebanon and the wider region and respond accordingly both in terms of research and operations.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the

United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Additionally, trustees acknowledge their responsibility to identify, assess, and manage risks. The major risks related to the Centre that include the current uncertain and unstable financial situation in Lebanon has been reviewed and assessed and the necessary internal processes have been set up to manage those risks.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity and signed on its behalf by:



Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee

Date: 11 December 2021 | 12:22 GMT

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Independent Examiner's Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Centre for Lebanese Studies ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

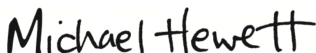
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect;

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 13 December 2021 | 16:37 GMT

M Hewett ACA DChA
Peters Elworthy and Moore
Chartered Accountants
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge
CB1 2LA

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

		Restricted funds 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	-	9,634	9,634	15,850
Charitable activities	3	-	791,310	791,310	664,700
Investment income	4	-	299	299	3,302
Total income		-	801,243	801,243	683,852
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	-	(684,939)	(684,939)	(539,940)
Total expenditure		-	(684,939)	(684,939)	(539,940)
Net income / (expenditure)		-	116,304	116,304	143,912
Net movement in funds	13	-	116,304	116,304	143,912
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forwards	13	-	144,453	144,453	541
Total funds carried forward	13	-	260,757	260,757	144,453

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 13 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Registration number 298375

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2020

		£	2020 £	£	2019 £
	Notes				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	10		<u>7,370</u>		<u>14,739</u>
			7,370		14,739
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	8,906		-	
Cash at bank		<u>308,338</u>		<u>133,206</u>	
		317,244		133,206	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(63,857)</u>		<u>(3,492)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			253,387		129,714
NET ASSETS			<u>260,757</u>		<u>144,453</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	13		<u>260,757</u>		<u>144,453</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>260,757</u>		<u>144,453</u>

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Bassem Ziade
Chairman and Trustee

Date: 11 December 2021 | 12:22 GMT

The notes on pages 13 to 20 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net cash used in operating activities	174,833	149,822
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	299	3,302
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(22,109)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	299	(18,807)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES	-	-
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR	175,132	131,015
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	133,206	2,191
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	<u>308,338</u>	<u>133,206</u>

The notes on pages 13 to 20 form part of these financial statements

Centre for Lebanese Studies

Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second edition October 2019 - effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Centre for Lebanese Studies meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Functional and presentational currency

The charity's functional currency is USD's and the presentational currency is GBP's.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

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Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity’s compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee’s meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are initially recorded at cost.
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% Reducing balance

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund Structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee’s discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

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Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Donations and gifts	9,634	9,634	15,850
	<u>9,634</u>	<u>9,634</u>	<u>15,850</u>
Total 2019	<u>15,580</u>	<u>15,580</u>	

In 2019 all income was to unrestricted funds.

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Research grants & other	791,310	791,310	664,700
	<u>791,310</u>	<u>791,310</u>	<u>664,700</u>
Total 2019	<u>664,700</u>	<u>664,700</u>	

In 2019 all income was to unrestricted funds.

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Investment income	299	299	3,302
	<u>299</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>3,302</u>
Total 2019	<u>3,302</u>	<u>3,302</u>	

In 2019 all income was to unrestricted funds.

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Notes to the accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Summary of fund by type

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Research	684,939	-	684,939	539,940
	<u>684,939</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>684,939</u>	<u>539,940</u>
Total 2019	<u>539,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>539,940</u>	

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Activities undertaken directly 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Research	649,281	35,658	684,939	539,940
	<u>649,281</u>	<u>35,658</u>	<u>684,939</u>	<u>539,940</u>
Total 2019	<u>466,241</u>	<u>73,699</u>	<u>539,940</u>	

In 2019 all expenditure was to unrestricted funds.

ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS

	Activities 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Research and project costs	649,281	649,281	466,241
	<u>649,281</u>	<u>649,281</u>	<u>466,241</u>
Total 2019	<u>466,241</u>	<u>466,241</u>	

In 2019 all expenditure was to unrestricted funds.

Notes to the accounts

Centre for Lebanese Studies

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (continued)

ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Depreciation	7,369	7,370
Office and workshop	25,772	30,407
Subscriptions, advertising and website	22,866	28,947
Accountancy and audit	2,070	1,842
Bank charges	2,445	462
Foreign exchange	(24,864)	4,671
	35,658	73,699
	35,658	73,699

In 2019 all expenditure was to unrestricted funds.

7. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year. No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

8. TAXATION

The Charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

9. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2020
	£
	<i>Archives</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2020	12,823
Additions	0
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2020	12,823
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2020	12,823
Charge for the year	0
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2020	12,823
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2020	-
At 31 December 2020	-

Notes to the accounts

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For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

10. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	2020 £ <i>Furniture & equipment</i>
Cost	
At 1 January 2020	46,735
Additions	0
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2020	46,735
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 January 2020	31,996
Charge for the year	7,370
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2020	39,366
Net Book Value	
At 1 January 2020	14,739
At 31 December 2020	7,369

11. DEBTORS

	2020 £	2019 £
Prepayments	8,906	-
Total debtors	8,906	-

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals	55,860	3,492
Other creditors	7,997	-
Total current creditors	63,857	3,492

Notes to the accounts

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For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

13. FUNDS AND RESERVES – CURRENT YEAR

Unrestricted Funds	Retained surplus at 01/01/20	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Total funds at 31/12/20
General	144,453	801,243	(684,939)	-	260,757
Total Funds	144,453	801,243	(684,939)	-	260,757

FUNDS AND RESERVES – PRIOR YEAR

Unrestricted Funds	Retained surplus at 01/01/19	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Total funds at 31/12/19
General	541	683,852	(539,940)	-	144,453
Total Funds	541	683,852	(539,940)	-	144,453

14. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	116,304	143,912
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	7,369	7,370
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(299)	(3,302)
(Increase) in debtors	(8,906)	-
Increase in creditors	60,365	1,842
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>174,833</u>	<u>149,822</u>

15. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash at bank and in hand	308,338	133,206
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>308,338</u>	<u>133,206</u>

Notes to the accounts

Centre for Lebanese Studies

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

16. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 January 2020	Cash flows	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	133,206	175,132	308,338
	<u>133,206</u>	<u>175,132</u>	<u>308,338</u>

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year transfers amounting to £252,391 (2019 £nil) were paid to an affiliated NGO entity Education Dev. Center in Lebanon, established to hire local staff and enable CLS to fulfil its objectives.